

**Annie Baxter in Van Diemen's Land:
An Abridged and Annotated Version of her Journal,
1834 – 1851**

Toni-Anne Sherwood MA

**Submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the Degree of
Doctor of Philosophy**

University of Tasmania

June 2010

Declaration of Originality

This thesis contains no material which has been accepted for a degree or diploma by the University or any other institution, except by way of background information and duly acknowledged in the thesis, and to the best of my knowledge and belief no material previously published by another person except where due acknowledgement is made in the text of this thesis.

Toni-Anne Sherwood:

Date:

Statement of Authority

This thesis is not to be made available for loan or copying for two years following the date this statement was signed. Following that time the thesis may be made available for loan and limited copying in accordance with the *Copyright Act* 1968.

Toni-Anne Sherwood:

Date:

Abstract

The day after Annie Baxter embarked with her husband, a British army officer, on the *Augusta Jessie* to travel to the Australian colonies, she began a journal which she maintained for the next thirty-four years. This thesis presents an edited scholarly edition of those sections of Annie Baxter's extant manuscript journal which record her five visits to Van Diemen's Land and her experiences in the colony between 1835 and 1851, together with a detailed commentary. During her first visit she resided in Launceston with her husband for almost four years; subsequently she visited alone, travelling each time from Yambuk, a grazing property in the Portland region of Port Phillip. After her initial visit in the 1830s, she made three visits between November 1844 and February 1849 for periods which varied in length from three to seven months, to stay with her brother, a Royal Engineer then stationed in Hobart Town. From June 1849 she lived in Hobart Town with her brother following the death of his wife, before returning to England in January 1851.

The text of Annie Baxter's journal included in this thesis maps Annie's experiences at a difficult and eventful time of her life in a particular colonial location, while also tracing the journal's development as a serial life writing project. Stylistically, I refrain in the thesis from aesthetic evaluation of the journal but emphasise its complexity as literary endeavour. And while these aspects of the journal are explored, in line with the requirements of responsible scholarly editing, care has been taken to preserve the integrity of the manuscript in terms of the writer's preoccupations, emphasis, and interest.

The thesis comprises a general introduction which provides necessary background material and establishes editorial practice, then an abridged reading text presented in four parts: one for each of the first, fourth and fifth visits, while the journal records of the second and third visits are presented together. Each of the four parts is supported by an introductory essay that contextualises the journal record and provides relevant cultural and stylistic commentary, and annotations which are both interpretative and explanatory. The thesis is completed with a full electronic transcription to accommodate the imperative for editorial transparency.

Acknowledgements

I would like to sincerely thank my supervisors, Professor Ralph Crane and Associate Professor Anna Johnston for the help and professional guidance they have provided throughout this thesis. Their support, interest, insight and encouragement are much appreciated. I would also like to thank Lucy Frost for generously making her transcription of Annie Baxter's journals available to me and for her encouragement in this project.

Thanks are also due to the Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales for providing access to the journal manuscripts, for permission to incorporate sections of the manuscript in this thesis and for their ongoing interest in the project.

Associate Professor Bert Peeters, now Head of French Studies at Macquarie University, North Ryde, New South Wales, provided assistance to translate difficult passages of French in the manuscript during his time at the University of Tasmania.

My sister Jenny provided willing photographic assistance and both she and her husband Gary were gracious and generous hosts during my visits to the Mitchell Library.

I would like to thank my family – Rupert, David, Simon, Patrick and Peter – for their ongoing interest in this project. They have never failed to enquire about the “PhD” and they have never questioned my right to be so preoccupied. Generous with their emotional support, they also willingly provided practical assistance for some parts of the thesis: David helped construct family trees for the Hadden and Baxter families and Rupert assisted with photography and printing of the thesis.

CONTENTS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.....	3
LIST OF MAPS	4
CHRONOLOGY	5
FAMILY TREES.....	9
INTRODUCTION	11
Annie's Early Life: A Family and Social Background	21
The Journal: A Nineteenth-Century Context	29
Editorial Method and Practice	42
EDITORIAL PRINCIPLES	51
FIRST VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND 12 SEPTEMBER 1834 – 23 SEPTEMBER 1838	59
Introduction	59
Journal 12 September 1834 – 23 September 1838	75
SECOND VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND (29 NOVEMBER 1844 – 7 MARCH 1845) AND THIRD VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND (28 NOVEMBER 1846 – 7 FEBRUARY 1847).....	127
Introduction	127
Journal 29 November 1844 – 7 March 1845	141
Journal 28 November 1846 – 7 February 1847	159
FOURTH VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND 26 JULY 1848 – FEBRUARY 1849	175
Introduction	175
Journal 26 July 1848 – 18 February 1849	187
FIFTH VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND 15 JUNE 1849 – 15 JANUARY 1851	245
Introduction	245
Journal 15 June 1849 – 15 January 1851	263
BIOGRAPHICAL DIRECTORY	375
APPENDIX A: DESCRIPTION OF NOTEBOOKS.....	391
APPENDIX B: TRANSCRIPTION OF EXTRA MATERIAL AT THE END OF NOTEBOOK 1..	397
WORKS CITED	403

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

(Inserted between pages 50 and 51)

Figure 1: Notebook 1 (MS Q181 Item 1).

Figure 2: Notebook 5 (MS Q181 Item 5).

Figure 3: Notebook 8 (MS Q 181 Item 8) and Notebook 9 (MS Q 181 Item 9).

Figure 4: Notebook 10 (MS Q 181 Item 10) and Notebook 11 (MS Q 181 Item 11).

Figure 5: Journal volumes which record Annie's fifth visit to Van Diemen's Land.

Figure 6: Inscription first recto page Notebook 1.

Figure 7: Detail of inscription first recto page Notebook 1.

Figure 8: First pages Notebook 1: September 1834.

Figure 9: Sample journal pages Notebook 1: January 1838.

Figure 10: Detail of hieroglyphic code: "I feel what a neglected wife is sure to feel sooner or later" (3 Dec. 1838).

Figure 11: Detail of hieroglyphic code: "Dear Richard looks so ill! God bless him" (7 Jan. 1838).

Figure 12: Sample journal pages Notebook 5: November 1844.

LIST OF MAPS

(Inserted between pages 390 and 391)

Map 1: Colony of Tasmania, 1890 (Van Diemen's Land until 1856)

Map 2: Area surrounding Hobart Town

Map 3: Area surrounding Launceston

Map 4: Hobart Town, 1854

Map 5: Detail Hobart Town, 1854

Map 6: Launceston, 1839

Map 7: Detail of Launceston, 1839

CHRONOLOGY

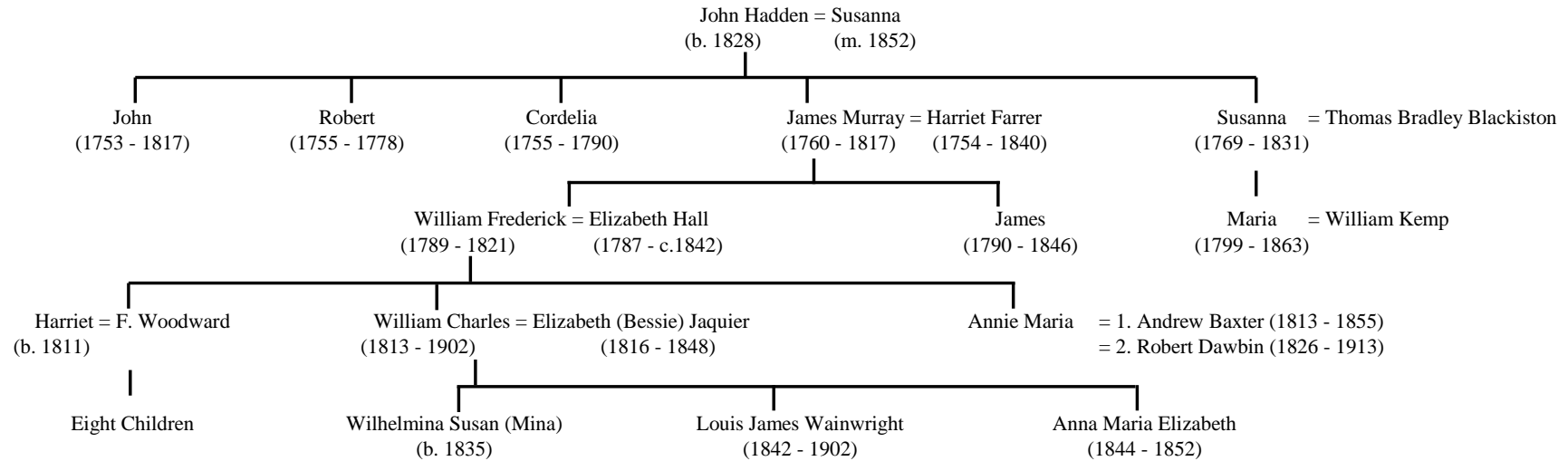
24 November 1816	Born in Exeter, Devonshire, third child of William Frederick Hadden and his wife Elizabeth (née Hall).
October 1817	Death of Grandfather James Murray Hadden.
c. 1821-22	Death of father, his brother James Hadden becomes guardian to Annie and her siblings Harriet (b. Sept. 1811) and William (b. 7 Feb. 1813).
c. 1826-33	Student at Twyford Abbey, Kensington, London.
8 February 1834	Married Andrew Baxter (b. 7 Dec. 1813).
12 September 1834	Embarked on the <i>Augusta Jessie</i> and began to keep her journal.
23 January 1835	Arrived in Hobart, Van Diemen's Land (hereafter VDL).
13 February 1835	Arrived in Launceston after two-day journey from Hobart.
Feb.-Dec. 1835	Period of little journal writing (possibly has two miscarriages).
1836	Gradual integration into social world of prominent northern settler families (possibly meets Richard Dry)
14-19 March 1837	Annie and Baxter accompany members of the Youl, Dry, Connolly and Cox families on a camping expedition to Ben Lomond.
1 April 1837	Unchaperoned attendance at James Youl's "shooting party."
Dec. 1837- Jan. 1838	Period of intense involvement with Richard Dry.
29-31 January 1838	Joins Maria and Rowland Davies on their excursion to the "Westward."
14 June 1838	Baxter posted to Perth, VDL.
10 September 1838	Baxter ordered to Sydney.
23 September 1838	Departed VDL on the <i>Bee</i> , with Baxter for Regimental Headquarters in Sydney.
February 1839	Annie and Baxter visited Magnus McLeod's property on the Macleay River.
July 1839	Baxter began proceedings to resign his commission in the army.
September 1839	Yesabba, a grazing run on the Macleay River, acquired.

January 1844	Yesabba sold.
March – May 1844	Left Yesabba, travelled by sea from Sydney to Port Macquarie, then overland to Melbourne, Belfast (Port Fairy) and Yambuk.
Nov.1844 – Mar. 1845	Visited her brother William in Hobart.
Nov.1846 – Feb. 1847	Further visit to brother in Hobart.
26 July 1848	Returned to Hobart to nurse William's wife, Bessie.
17 September 1848	Death of Bessie from consumption.
Oct. – Dec. 1848	Period of illness and mourning in Hobart.
Dec. – Feb. 1848	Relationship began with Henry Hadley.
18 February 1849	Left Van Diemen's Land, travelled to Melbourne before return to Yambuk to finalise arrangements for separation from Baxter.
June 1849	Returned to Hobart.
March 1850	<i>HMS Maeander</i> arrived Hobart, met Josiah Thompson, relationship developed between the two.
20 April 1850	Thompson departed Hobart on <i>HMS Maeander</i> .
January 1851	Departed Van Diemen's Land on <i>Calcutta</i> with William and his children for England.
1851	In England visited her sister Harriet, the Douglas family at Ryde and reacquainted with Thompson.
December 1851	Kept house for William at Plymouth.
29 March 1852	Annie's niece Annie Hadden died at Devonport, England, aged eight.
August 1852	Travelled to Cork, Ireland to join William (posted there July 1852).
September 1853	William married Maria Frances Evans Merryweather.
Late October 1853	Left Cork, returned to England.
April 1855	Heard of Baxter's suicide at Emerald Hill, Melbourne on 21 January 1855.

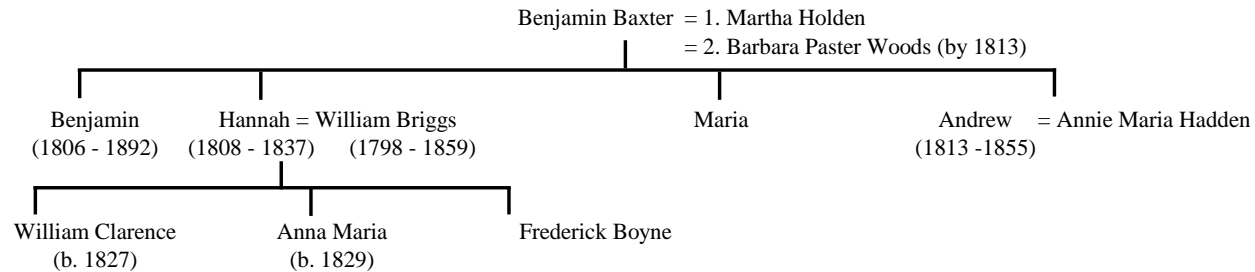
January 1857	Sailed to Melbourne to prove entitlement to Andrew Baxter's considerable estate, met Robert Dawbin on the voyage.
April –August 1857	Arrived Melbourne, began legal negotiations, which proved successful, sold Baxter's properties, realising c. £5,000.
1 September 1857	Married Robert Dawbin, purchase Bongmire, a grazing property in the Western Districts, Victoria.
1858 – 1861	Bongmire sold, Sinclair purchased. Experienced financial pressures throughout this period which result in the forced sale of Sinclair.
1862 – 1863	Lived with Dawbin in rented accommodation in Melbourne.
May 1863	Dawbin sailed to England following death of his father, Annie remained in Melbourne.
April 1865	Travelled to England to join Dawbin.
January 1868	Sailed for Dunedin, New Zealand following Dawbin's appointment by the Otago Provincial Government to introduce salmon into New Zealand.
2 May 1868	Arrive Dunedin, journal ended.
1870	Dawbin dismissed after breeding experiment failed.
1871	Sailed for Melbourne.
1873	<i>Memories of the Past</i> published anonymously in Melbourne.
1884	Operated small farm at Coburg, following failure of second marriage.
1888-1905	Farmed at South Yan Yean, near Melbourne on land she held freehold.
22 November 1905	Died, buried in pre-purchased plot at Melbourne General Cemetery.

FAMILY TREES

Hadden Family Tree



Baxter Family Tree



INTRODUCTION

On 11 September 1834 seventeen-year-old Annie Baxter embarked on the convict transport *Augusta Jessie* bound for the Australian colonies. She travelled with her husband of seven months – Andrew Baxter, a lieutenant in the 50th (Queens Own) Regiment of Foot – who had joint charge of the military guard for the 210 male convicts embarked at Portsmouth for transportation to Van Diemen's Land, the British Empire's penal colony. The day after embarkation Annie began a journal which she maintained with varying regularity and commitment until 3 May 1868 when the journal ended abruptly and without explanation, mid-entry and mid-sentence. By that time the diarist, then fifty-one, had arrived at Dunedin in the South Island of New Zealand, with her second husband Robert Dawbin and a cargo of salmon ova which he had brought from England and with which he was charged with introducing to the country (Frost, *Journal* xlvi). In the thirty-four years between the first and last entries the journal provides a rich and varied record that is important both as a chronicle of a woman's life and the Australian colonial experience.

Annie's extant manuscript journal comprises some 845,000 words written on 5,500 journal pages in thirty-two notebooks (Frost, *Journal* xvii). The notebooks – purchased over a thirty-year period from stationers in England, Ireland, New South Wales, Van Diemen's Land and Victoria – are of variable quality and length. While some are substantial volumes handsomely bound with marbled pasteboards, or covered, either with artificial or natural leather, and elaborately embossed, others are soft bound, covered with cloth on thin board, with plain, rather than marbled endpapers and edges. The volumes are currently held in the Manuscript Collection of the Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales where they are stored in three reinforced manuscript boxes.

This thesis focuses on those sections of the journal written during the diarist's five visits to Van Diemen's Land between 1835 and 1851. Annie arrived initially in January 1835 with her husband and members of his regiment; they were stationed in Launceston in the colony's north – except for a short period in the nearby settlement of Perth – for three and a half years before the

50th Foot was ordered to regimental headquarters in Sydney. Annie visited the colony again in November 1844 and in November 1846 at the invitation of her brother, William Hadden, who with his wife and young family arrived in Hobart Town¹ in September 1844. On each of these occasions she remained for approximately three months before returning to Yambuk, the grazing property she operated with her husband in the Portland region of Port Phillip (now Victoria) after May 1844. In July 1848 she came to Van Diemen's Land to nurse William's wife, Bessie, who suffered from consumption and was gravely ill. Following Bessie's death in September 1848, Annie's stay was extended to six and a half months. She again travelled to Hobart Town in June 1849 to care for her brother and his children. Nineteen months later, in January 1851, she left Hobart Town on the *Calcutta* for England with her brother and his family. And although she would return to the Australian colonies in the 1850s, it appears she never again visited Van Diemen's Land.

In all Annie spent a total of almost six years in the colony between February 1835 and January 1851. She recorded her experience in 170,000 words – approximately twenty per cent of the total journal and forty percent of her writing between the commencement of the journal and the end of 1850, shortly before her departure from Hobart Town for England – and in several journal volumes. The Van Diemen's Land record is drawn from sections of the first, fifth, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh and fourteenth notebooks, and all of the twelfth and thirteenth notebooks. Annie's writing is unevenly spread across visits and years. Four thousand words were written during her 3½ month voyage to Van Diemen's Land, 22,000 in the colony between February 1835 and September 1838, almost ten thousand between the end of November 1844 and mid-March 1845, and nine thousand from November 1846 until February 1847. In the 8½ months of 1848 and 1849 she was in the colony she wrote a little more than forty thousand words while during the eighteen months between June 1849 and January 1851 she wrote approximately eighty thousand words. Excerpts of these sections are included in Lucy Frost's *A Face in the Glass: The Journal and Life of Annie Baxter Dawbin* (1992) but most remains unpublished and therefore difficult to

¹The name by which the city of Hobart was known before 1875; throughout the thesis I use Hobart Town in preference to Hobart.

access. I have prepared in this thesis a scholarly reading text of those journal sections written on the *Augusta Jessie* and during Annie's five visits to Van Diemen's Land. The section of the journal presented here begins with the entry made on 12 September 1834 as the *Augusta Jessie* lay at anchor in Deptford, and concludes with a retrospective entry made on 23 January 1851, a week after Annie's departure from Hobart Town, "on board the 'Calcutta'; and fairly underweigh for old England" (23 Jan. 1851).²

The journal sections written in Van Diemen's Land chronicle an eventful time in both Annie's life and the history of Van Diemen's Land. For the colony, the period 1835-1851 was one of political development and considerable economic and social change. Politically it was characterised by the emergence of the colonial gentry as a political force opposed to British colonial rule and anxious to achieve some form of representative colonial government. With increasing vehemence this group objected to the high levels of taxation the British government imposed on them and became effective and vocal proponents for an end to the system of convict transportation that they considered financially crippling and socially detrimental to the colony. From a social perspective the numbers of convicts arriving in the colony increased significantly after 1840 when transportation to New South Wales ceased. Alongside burgeoning convict numbers the growing respectability of "more humble folk" is observed as in this period, the doctrine of "moral enlightenment" summarised as a "secular belief ... that stressed utility, earnestness and abstinence from intoxicating drinks" and encouraged self-improvement was embraced by increasing numbers of working people anxious to establish their respectability (Robson and Roe 20). Economically the prosperity the colony enjoyed in the 1830s as a producer of fine wool and timber for Europe, and a supplier of food to New South Wales was eroded by the depression of the early 1840s and exacerbated by the cessation of the assignment system which had provided settlers in Van Diemen's Land with a cheap and ready supply of convict labour. The probation system that replaced assignment imposed a heavy financial burden on the colony which

² Throughout the thesis entries from the extant manuscript are cited by entry date. This enables the location of the entry in all textual forms – the original and microfilm versions of the complete manuscript and the transcription and abridged text included in this thesis.

was keenly felt during the depression years of the early 1840s when associated expenses brought the colonial government to the brink of bankruptcy.

However, as Annie's journal has a personal focus and is primarily a record of her life, it is not overly informative or concerned about these events. In her journal, as in others of this kind, significant public events occur as background to personal concerns and were important only insofar as they affected Annie directly or individuals with whom she was friendly. The political turmoil characteristic of the 1840s was noteworthy only as it involved Richard Dry, with whom she was romantically involved in the 1830s. Similarly, economic difficulties are noted solely for their impact on various friends. In each case references are oblique rather than direct. Annie writes as a garrison wife in Launceston in the 1830s and records her social interactions with members of prominent northern settler families. In Hobart Town in the 1840s her connection to the military was maintained through her brother, a member of the Royal Engineer Corps and again her social interaction was with the colonial elite: this time government officials, their wives and daughters. In both locations Annie recorded her experience and reported "what she saw and heard" (Frost, *Journal* xvii) and in this respect her journal is informative about aspects of social, cultural and military life in the colony during a period of substantial change.

On a personal level these sections record the first years of Annie's difficult and unhappy marriage to Andrew Baxter, two miscarriages and a third pregnancy, her love for Richard Dry whom she met in the 1830s, and romantic friendships with other men, as well as her fraught interactions with her brother and his wife. The journal documents Annie's changing attitudes to marriage, her separation from Baxter and the insecurity this in turn engenders for a woman of her social group in the 1840s. At the same time it documents her friendship with loyal and supportive friends and the pleasure she derives from caring for her nephew and niece following the death of their mother.

Until recently, journals such as Annie's – grounded in the everyday and focused on the personal – attracted little critical attention. As a form of historical record such writing was considered chiefly as a resource to be mined for information about a particular person, time or

place and thus flesh out historical accounts with details. Personal journals were denigrated as unreliable and biased and their intrinsic value – as a record of an individual life in process, located in a particular time and place – was overlooked. In literary studies disciplinary neglect of the personal journal related, as Felicity Nussbaum observes, on the one hand to the difficulty of accessing writing that was mostly unpublished and on the other to critical assumptions about what constituted the literary (23). In this latter respect critical dismissal of the personal journal was both generic and aesthetic. Generically the persistent, but naive assumptions that the term autobiography described a retrospective record of a significant period of a particular life, narrated in a manner approaching an objective historical account by a coherent and stable individual (Olney 20), precluded the journal – a subjective record of a life in process – from generic inclusion as autobiography. Similarly, literary evaluations of the unpublished personal writing of both men and women, as banal, artless, derivative and repetitive ensured its dismissal as aesthetically inadequate.

In the last twenty or so years the personal writing of both men and woman has been placed more centrally in a number of academic disciplines, such that they are now valued as cultural documents that have both a socio-historical and literary significance. Feminist revisions in both history and literary studies have established that women's personal writings are important as "records of women's experiential history and forms of autobiography" (Wink xi). The socio-historical significance of such texts lies in their structure as subjective records, produced by an individual in a particular time and place. Such documents are culturally produced and inevitably reflect the attitudes and beliefs of a particular period.

Suzanne Bunkers argues that nineteenth-century American fiction written by women "offered a realistic assessment of the lives of only a small percentage of Americans" and that to better understand what women's lives were like it is necessary to "examine their autobiographical texts, for it was in diaries, journals, letters and memoirs that many women expressed their attitudes, opinions and beliefs concerning their lives" ("Midwestern" 190). Amanda Vickery makes a similar point when she criticises the representation of women in published sources such

as conduct manuals, plays (written by men, not women). She argues that diaries and journals are sound sources of information about women's actual lives, exposing the constraints under which they lived and challenging stereotypical representations of women (11). Vickery uses the manuscript writing of propertied women in the Lancashire parish of Whalley to challenge generalisations about women from this social group in Georgian England as reticent, retiring and home-based. Her research demonstrates that although genteel women increasingly ceased to perform manual labour they assumed greater roles as household managers and continued to be "linked to the world in a multiplicity of ways" (9).

Feminist revisions have also established that women's personal journals and diaries are sites where dominant ideologies are both inscribed and disrupted (Nussbaum 28). Nussbaum proposes women's eighteenth-century autobiographical writings as sites where "resistance[s] to hegemonic ideas of female character" are apparent and "gaps in ideologies of genre, class and gender" are exposed (xviii). Although her comments are derived from an examination of eighteenth-century writing, other scholars make similar observations about nineteenth-century personal writing. In *British Women's Diaries: A Descriptive Bibliography of Selected Nineteenth-Century Women's Manuscript Diaries* (1985) Cynthia Huff identifies expressions of frustration about the limits respectable femininity imposed on female activity and the subversion of the notion of male superiority as common concerns in a number of the diaries she studied. Huff observes that women diarists, while accepting of the "gender stereotypes of female purity and passivity and male worldliness and aggressiveness, ... saw men as considerably more flawed than the ideal of the omniscient, benevolent patriarch would suggest" (xxvii).

In colonial studies theorists have argued that it is important to consider personal and unpublished writing alongside published and often "official" accounts focused on colonial endeavour. Nicholas Thomas observes an interest in "recovering non-canonical sources ... previously beneath any serious critical or interpretative vision." Such texts, he argues, have been crucial in enabling scholars to contest "dominant versions of colonial histories" (18). He contends that colonial practice can only be fully appreciated through consideration of the texts of those

whose opinions and ideas are normally excluded from the official record: the disreputable, women, the ordinary and the working-class (159). The problem as he sees it is not that “a dimension of colonialism might be neglected, but that its coherence can be radically overstated” (160). In a similar vein, Deidre David observes the personal and private writing of women whose husbands were members of the diplomatic service is distinguished by varying degrees of resistance and inscription to colonial endeavours in particular countries. She contends that such women write “sometimes in enthusiastic consonance with praise of Britannic rule, sometimes in contrapuntal voice that speaks sceptically alongside the primary androcentric voices that articulate ideal governance of the empire” (5).

In literary studies personal journals once dismissed as banal, artless, derivative and repetitive are now recognised as texts in their own right which can be as carefully composed and as complex as more deliberately literary texts. Margot Culley argues that “periodic life writing springs from the same source as art created for a public audience: the urge to give shape and meaning to life with words, and to endow this meaning-making with a permanence that transcends words” (xi). Her analysis of the diary writing of American women over two centuries establishes that diaries are constructs: the result of a complex “process of selection and arrangement of detail” (10). Like more traditionally normative texts they incorporate aspects of other genres and can be experimental. Research has established that diaries are often not private but frequently may have a public dimension as well. In this case the diarist’s anticipation of a reader has a crucial influence on what is, or is not, said in the diary along with the diarist’s self-presentation (Culley 12, Bloom 23).

Diaries and journals are now acknowledged as autobiographical acts. Bunkers argues that the special condition of a journal record as a “commentary on life as it *is* lived ... as process rather than as product” might well produce a more authentic form of autobiography than more traditional forms which are characterised by the “retrospective narration and interpretation of a life lived” (“Midwestern” 191). Like more traditional forms of autobiography, diaries and journals can have significant rhetorical functions. Sidonie Smith and Julia Watson observe that when life

narrators chronicle an event or a life they can be performing one or more rhetorical acts:

“justifying their own perceptions, upholding their reputations, disputing the accounts of others, settling scores, conveying cultural information, and inventing desirable futures among others”

(10). Considered this way a personal journal is not simply a record of days but a cultural practice used strategically by the diarist in a number of ways.

The literary significance of the sections of Annie’s journal written in Van Diemen’s Land lies in the journal’s developing complexity as a literary text, its development as a serial life writing project, along with its changing rhetorical function. In terms of complexity the journal sections are distinguished by a changing sense of audience and experiments with style. When the journal opens it is simply a place where Annie records her activity and experience, however as her life becomes more complex the journal expands and changes its function. The journal becomes her confidant – “always available, always listening, always sympathetic” (Culley 11) – an ideal substitute for the kind friends and loving husband that Annie lacked. In her diary thoughts which could not be shared with others could be expressed. In later years the journal develops a more rhetorical function, becoming a vehicle for self-justification, self-assertion and self-admiration, important to Annie to maintain a sense of self in an increasingly complex and sometimes hostile world. By 1848, towards the end of the journal sections presented here, the journal is established as a life-writing project. It had become the story of her life: a version of herself that she would preserve for posterity. The closing entry of the twelfth volume of her journal in December 1848 clearly articulates this imagined trajectory:

Now then to close this volume, in itself quite a Romance. I frequently wonder
who will read these when I’m dead; and often think of bequeathing them to
some person, as a momento [sic] of as queer a compound of Reason &
Madness, as ever existed! (8 Dec 1848)

The section of the journal presented in this thesis enables the journal’s development as a serial life-writing project to be mapped and the literary devices by which the self is revealed to be analysed.

While the journal remains unpublished and archived its significance and importance are largely unappreciated. The journal's location in an archive is one barrier to access for as an archived text its circulation and its influence are limited to those who know of its existence and who have the capacity to visit the location where it is held. However the journal's form and style inevitably impose further barriers. For the most part when a modern reader encounters an unedited nineteenth-century handwritten manuscript not prepared for publication by its writer they confront, as Cynthia Huff observes, a text which is "radically different, radically heterogeneous" ("Reading" 507) and which bears little resemblance in style or form to the printed, published texts to which the reader is accustomed. The reader encounters the writer's handwriting, which may be faded and difficult to decipher, as well as crossings out, false starts, and confused pagination and dating. The text belongs to a genre whose conventions are slippery and protean, where "spatial orderings such as paragraphs or stanzas" associated with conventionally produced texts are often absent (Huff, "Reading" 510). Spelling, paragraphing, punctuation can all be unorthodox and because the journal is most often a daily record there is no imperative, or indeed possibility, to develop clear plot lines. Presenting a manuscript in a more conventional form overcomes barriers of access and allows the potential for the text to have more readers.

Although many literary women did keep diaries, most women who kept diaries were not professional writers. For them writing was not a primary activity but fitted in around other aspects of their daily life. They lacked the time, skill or inclination to polish their writing – so although their writing was inevitably a construct insofar as it was a product of selection and arrangement – it was not the product of extensive or professional revision. A diarist like Annie typically wrote at the beginning or end of a day, or in quiet moments when she was alone. For her, writing rarely took precedence over household tasks, social activities, and friends or family, and if she was too busy (or indeed happy) she did not write. Feminist scholars make the point that texts such as Annie's that have not been prepared for publication by their writer cannot be read in the same way as the texts we have been trained to read. Huff advocates a reading practice for personal and

unpublished writing that is sympathetic rather than antagonistic and does not “assume that the reading practices we’re accustomed to are the appropriate ones” (“Reading” 506). She suggests a reading practice akin to “detective work” where silence, allusion, innuendo and repetition are significant (“Reading” 506, 511). Similarly, Amy Wink dismisses as unhelpful the notion that women’s unpublished writing should be evaluated in terms of its aesthetic shortcomings. She recommends a thoughtful and respectful approach both towards the women who “have left their books – their private and personal communications to themselves – and, intentionally or not, ... made them available to us” (xxv) and their texts. To read thoughtfully is to recognise the complexity and the individuality of the woman writing; it is no longer possible, as Wink says, to use this woman or her text to “construct some large and comfortable abstraction about their lives to prove a theoretical position (xxvi). To be read fairly they must be read contextually – as texts produced in a particular time and place. The reading practices advocated by these and other scholars have informed the presentation of the journal sections in this thesis.

This thesis is divided into three parts: a general introduction; an abridged and annotated reading text; and an electronic transcription of all the journal sections written in Van Diemen’s Land and on the voyage from England on the *Augusta Jessie*. The remainder of this introduction has three sections. The first provides a biographical sketch of Annie’s life before the journal began and a social and family background, all of which provide a context in which to read the journal sections presented here. The second section makes some general observations about the journal as a whole and places it within a nineteenth-century tradition of personal journal writing, as well as outlining previous work on the journal and briefly discussing critical reception. The section concludes with the introduction and brief discussion of some of the texts written in Van Diemen’s Land in the 1830s and 1840s which are comparable to Annie’s journal. The introduction concludes with discussion of the editorial method and practice which has underpinned the preparation of this reading text. The reading text of approximately 83,000 words is presented in four parts: one for each of the first, fourth and fifth visits, while the journal record of the second and third visits are presented together. In each case the journal text is prefaced by a

short introduction which provides a necessary social and literary context for reading that section, and offers relevant cultural and stylistic commentary. The thesis also includes a bibliographic description of relevant notebooks as an appendix; a second appendix is a transcript of a series of anecdotes and puns written in the back of the first volume of Annie's journal. The transcription, included electronically as part of this thesis, was revised from an original made by Frost in the 1980s. It is presented with comprehensive explanatory notes about the states of the text.

Annie's Early Life: A Family and Social Background

A comprehensive picture of Annie's early life is difficult to establish with any certainty. Although Annie Baxter has achieved posthumous distinction as a "pioneer and diarist" (*ADB*), she was undistinguished in her lifetime. As a young married woman in the Australian colonies Annie associated with members of the colonial elite, and she and her husband were among the first to become squatters in the Australian bush, but neither she nor her family achieved the kind of distinction or notoriety that would ensure their lives would be remembered or examined after their death. When Annie died on 22 November 1905, two days before her eighty-ninth birthday, she was living quietly at South Yan Yean on the small farm of fifty-one acres she had purchased in September 1889, easily accessible by the recently established railway service, where she produced eggs, butter and milk for the Melbourne markets twenty miles to the south (Frost, *Face* 303). Annie died childless, separated from her second husband for more than twenty years and estranged from friends and family in England. She was buried without fanfare in a pre-purchased site in the Melbourne General Cemetery, after a service at W.G. Apps' Mortuary in Moor St, Fitzroy (Frost, *Face* 304).

Such persons rarely constitute the subject of historical or other academic enquiry: their lives pass unexamined and, although their papers and effects might be kept by a family member, those documents rarely find their way into public archives. Without the journal, Annie's historical trace would be limited to public records – directories, documents associated with purchase of

various properties or lease agreements, court proceedings connected with settlement of Andrew Baxter's estate, certificates of marriage and death and newspaper notices of the same. While sections of her journal, through reflection and reminiscence, provide some insight into her life at school in England and the period around her marriage, little is revealed about her early childhood. Her past and details of her family life emerge as fragments through references in the journal and the customary remembrance of the anniversaries of births, deaths and marriages of friends and family. Frost's archival research, much of which is already available in her published work about the journal, has verified many family biographical details and made further contributions to knowledge about Annie, particularly for the period after she stopped writing the journal in 1868 and up to her death. The following brief outline of Annie's family and social background and her life before she began writing her journal relies heavily on Frost's research. The one significant departure from Frost's earlier conclusions is that my research identifies Annie's paternal grandfather as James Murray Hadden, and her father as one of two siblings rather than from a family of four children (Frost *Journal* 4).³

Annie, born on 24 November 1816 at Exeter in Devonshire, was the youngest child of William Frederick Hadden and his wife Elizabeth (née Hall). She had two siblings: a brother William Charles, born 7 February 1813, and a sister Harriet born 19 September 1811. Annie's father died on 1 June 1821 aged thirty two;⁴ her mother remarried a Mr Sinclair soon after and together they had one child, a boy named George (Frost, *Face* 309). Following her father's death, his younger brother James Murray Hadden became guardian to Annie, William and Harriet.

The Hadden family had a connection to the military that extended over several generations. Her great-grandfather, John, is said to have been a captain in the Royal Marines while her grandfather, James Frederick, had a distinguished military career of more than forty years. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Royal Artillery in 1774 after graduating

³ I am grateful to Sephi Kemp – a descendant of James Murray Hadden's sister Susanna – for this information.

⁴ An entry in the journal suggests that Annie's father died on 1 June 1822 (1 June 1837) but details from the memorial tablet of the Hadden family vault in St. Nicholas Church, Harpenden, Herts., recorded in Volume 3 of John Edwin Cussans' *History of Hertfordshire* (London: Chatto & Windus, 1879: 363), indicates 1821 as the year of his death.

from the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.⁵ He saw active service in America during the War of Independence where, following the surrender of General Burgoyne's army at Saratoga, he was imprisoned for several months. His journal of Burgoyne's campaign in the Hudson Valley was published in 1884 and is regarded as "one of the best accounts to survive" (*ODNB*). He was promoted through the officer corps, becoming the Surveyor-General of Ordnance in 1805 and achieving the rank of major-general in 1811. He died on 29 October 1817 (Cussans 363).⁶

Annie's father, William Frederick, who was decorated for active service at Waterloo in 1815, had been a captain in the 6th (Iniskilling) Dragoons (Cussans 363) while her uncle, James Murray, attained the rank of major in the 3rd (Prince of Wales) Dragoon Guards. The military tradition was continued in Annie's generation by her brother who was a long-serving member of the Royal Engineer Corps. Like his grandfather, William graduated from the Royal Military Academy. He spent considerable time overseas and served in a number of colonial locations: the Cape Colonies, Canada (twice), Van Diemen's Land and Ceylon, and was promoted to general before his retirement in 1881 (Frost, *Journal* 589). Annie effectively continued this tradition when she chose to marry Baxter as in the nineteenth-century "regimental family" officer's wives were expected to augment their husband's regimental responsibilities and assume responsibility for the welfare of the wives and children of the ranking soldiers under her husband's command (Trustram 195). In a colonial context this role was integral to the establishment and maintenance of British social practices and rituals (Wilson, "British" 261).

The family owned property in Hertfordshire and London. Annie's grandfather purchased a substantial home in a park of twelve acres at Harpenden in Hertfordshire in 1804 (Cussans 358). After it was acquired, the house, built in the mid-eighteenth century, was fashionably remodelled

⁵ The Royal Military Academies at both Woolwich and Sandhurst provided free places for orphans of military families and for the sons of impecunious officers. Officers in the artillery and engineers did not purchase commissions but entered the army after graduation from the Royal Military Academy (Spiers 6, 11).

⁶ The *ODNB* entry for James Frederick Hadden records his death as 28 Oct. 1817 while Annie indicates he died 1 June 1817 (1 June 1837). As Annie was only a year old at the time of his death she would have no memory of this event. Given that it is highly improbable both her father and grandfather would die on the same day (albeit in different years) it is likely that the date was chosen as a matter of convenience – perhaps indicative of Annie's mother's lack of regard for the Hadden family.

in the Georgian style and renamed Harpenden Lodge (*Harpenden* 11). Although well short of a country estate, the house is listed as one of two notable houses in the parish, together with the grand manors of Rothamsted and Annables, in John Edwin Cussans' three-volume history of Hertfordshire (353-58). The house remained in the Hadden family until 1857 when it was sold by Annie's brother, William. Whether or not Annie ever lived in the house is uncertain. Annie indicates that her uncle divided his time between Harpenden Lodge and a family property in Eaton Square, London (30 Sep. 1843; Frost, *Face* 309).

Annie's father's death when she was very young, and her mother's subsequent remarriage, seemingly denied Annie and her siblings a stable and secure family environment in which to grow up. She was at boarding school for several years – well beyond the one or two years most families favoured for their daughters (Simonton 43) – and lived sometimes with her mother in Chester and at others with her great-aunt, Susannah Blackiston, in Rochester (1 Jan. 1839). As Frost has suggested, "home" in Annie's early journal entries was England rather than a welcoming family residence presided over by affectionate and caring parents (*Face* 306). This is evident when Annie had cause to remember the pleasures of a family on Christmas Day "assembled with a venerable Grandfather and Grand-mother in a fauteuil – watching the gambols of their children's children" (18 Feb. 1838). On this occasion the "merry circle" she called to mind was the family of her school friend Cressy Douglas rather than her own. The informal and affectionate family gathering presided over by indulgent grandparents reflects the ideal of late-eighteenth- and nineteenth-century family life where fathers were responsible, firm and loving and mothers were devoted and caring. In such families both parents provided guidance and were concerned for the welfare of their children.

Relationships within the family were troubled and strained, especially Annie's relationship with her mother. In usual circumstances a "daughter could expect to remain living with her mother until (and if) she married" and the relationship between the two was often close (Davidoff and Hall 341). This was not Annie's experience. She harboured no affection for her mother and was often critical of her. In her journal she remembers her as "very worldly" and

prone to “flattery and adulation” (Dec. 1843). Annie claims that her mother loved neither her children nor their father and was a neglectful parent who offered no “counsel & control” (25 Oct. 1843), and who thought nothing of entrusting her “bairns” to some “trustworthy nurse (who is off ‘as a shot’ to see, or find, her young man)” (12 Jan. 1846). On the other hand, her father, who died when Annie was five, is remembered fondly and never criticised. Annie speculates that if both he and her grandfather had lived, her life might have unfolded differently, insofar as she might have received more guidance and thus avoided her unfortunate marriage to Baxter.

Her relationship with her older sister Harriet was similarly tense. Although Annie wrote to her sister often, addressing her affectionately and familiarly as “dear Hal” or “dear old Harry” and “Harry,” her self-reproach for being “so constantly, (as I think) out of temper with dear Harriet” (10 Oct. 1834) suggests that there was tension between the two. Throughout the journal, Harriet is frequently represented as critical of Annie. For the life of the journal they squabble about ownership of family possessions. Early in the journal Annie writes that she had “sent the Desk to Harriet” (1 Sep. 1835), presumably a family heirloom she had brought with her from England. In later years the two argue about family portraits and their uncle’s estate. At the time of Annie’s departure from England in 1834, Harriet, then twenty-three years old, was due to marry F. Woodward, a solicitor from Birmingham.

Annie’s closest family relationship was with her brother William. In her early journal she frequently prefaced references to him with endearments such as “darling,” “beloved” and “dearest” and at times Annie’s representation of this relationship may suggest, to the modern reader, an improper intimacy between the two. However, Leonore Davidoff and Catherine Hall indicate that such relationships were not unusual for the period and that many siblings shared a bond of closeness and addressed each other in this way (351). They attribute this intimacy to factors such as a shared, and perhaps isolated, childhood and adolescence combined with deferment of marriage by both men and women until they had reached their mid-twenties. Davidoff and Hall argue that the level of involvement was such that siblings were “often implicated in each others’ courtship and career adventures.” Ideally, brothers were older than

sisters and the “attachment and treatment [of each other] was explicitly meant to prefigure that of marriage and through it they were to learn appropriate gender behaviour” (348). In middle-class families, sisters typically provided moral guidance while the brother was expected to be supportive and protective (349). There is no evidence to suggest that the Hadden’s brother-sister relationship followed this pattern, or indeed that William held his sister in the high regard that she held him. In Annie’s case her devotion to William may simply have been an extension of the regard in which she held her father and grandfather. In this respect, Annie’s regard for her brother may have been idealistically motivated rather than based on actual experience. Certainly it prefigures the ongoing search for masculine approval that is evident in the journal sections presented here.

Annie was educated at Twyford Abbey, a small boarding school in London of only twenty-one students, where she and her friends were taught by Mrs Chalken, whom Annie remembers fondly as a “dear old lady” (24 Apr. 1841). The school was likely to have been one of the small private commercial institutions that provided a fashionable alternative to home schooling for girls of respectable families at that time. The quality of the schools varied; many were ephemeral and failed to survive beyond two generations (Skedd 102), and fees ranged from £200 a year for the most prestigious down to £12 for those less well-regarded (Simonton 43). London schools, because they offered the “advantageous” experience of a metropolitan education, were among the most popular choices for parents (Skedd 104). In some, subjects such as history, geography, chronology, classical mythology and philosophy were taught but, more often than not, academic instruction was limited to reading, writing and arithmetic. It was also usual to provide instruction in the “polite accomplishments” of French, dancing, music, drawing and needlework (Skedd 101, 121).

Not all families considered this kind of education suitable for their daughters, and many preferred home education. Deborah Simonton observes that after 1820 sixty per cent of girls from middle-class families, and a similar number from among the elite, were educated at home. According to Simonton, this reflected an expected focus on the “world of house and home” (41).

In the home, girls were instructed in subjects commonly taught in schools but were also educated, as Ruth Follows writes, “to live a ‘sober and godly life’” (qtd. in Simonton 42). Like their school counterparts, girls at home were taught household management skills but were more likely to receive instruction in practical household tasks. While home education focused on morals instead of manners, the order was often reversed in schools where the emphasis was often, as Simonton asserts, to produce “accomplished” young women who would become “suitable ornament[s] in marriage” (45).

This certainly seems to have been the emphasis in Annie’s education. At seventeen she spoke and read French, wrote with a good hand and in a good style (although her early writing includes many dashes, her grammar is good and spelling mistakes are few), played the piano and sang, and was competent in needlework. Accounts of her life in England suggest a young woman who was lively, sociable and well-practised in the art of heterosexual sociability, having circulated in mixed company for a number of years before her marriage. By the time of her marriage she had already refused several prospective husbands: “a Derbyshire man of good family,” an army physician whom her mother had arranged for her to marry at fifteen and a Polish count (1 Jan. 1839). Undoubtedly charming and – as no likeness exists to suggest otherwise – presumably attractive, she was also vain and haughty. Her refusal to accede to her mother’s wishes about marriage indicates a girl possessed of a degree of independence and confidence, while the early journal reveals a young woman interested in the world and curious about it. These qualities were not particularly associated with middle-class ideology of “separate spheres” and perceptions of ideal femininity but they were, as Vickery suggests, typical of many genteel early nineteenth-century women (8-12).

Marriage and motherhood remained the expected trajectory for women of all social groups in the nineteenth century, but at seventeen Annie was a young bride. Most women did not marry until they were in their mid-twenties. Alan Macfarlane, drawing on the writings of Thomas Malthus, explains that early marriage was avoided by “the wealthy, the middling, the wage-earners and the servants” alike on grounds which were largely economic (8). Macfarlane contends

that the wealthy were reluctant to compromise their lavish living standards through marriage, while the middle class delayed marriage until they could establish an independent household (9). Wage-earners, on the other hand, while they could support themselves were unlikely to earn sufficient to feed four or five and in this respect risked poverty and social humiliation (10) whereas servants risked losing accommodation and employment when they married (11). The exception was the very wealthy for whom money was not an object – however they were more likely to marry to consolidate property holdings rather than for love or mutual attraction. Parents, apart from those with considerable property to protect, did not usually dictate a marriage partner for their child. It was more customary for young people to decide to marry and then to seek the permission of parents.

Christian teaching regarded marriage as an indissoluble and sacrosanct union (Perkin 236), and on this basis women were advised to choose their husbands carefully for, as Vickery observes, “the reckless bride risked bondage to misery” (39). The careful and sensible woman, although free to choose her husband, based her decision on her economic situation as well as on emotional attachment. In this respect Annie’s marriage to Baxter was ill-advised and ill-considered, and for both it was likely opportunistic. The marriage allowed Annie to escape her mother’s outmoded efforts to marry her to a wealthy older man, while for Andrew Baxter the yearly allowance Annie received from her uncle promised to supplement his poor pay and help meet the considerable expenses associated with his position as an officer in the British Army (Trustring 15; Spiers 15, 23). Baxter’s background was not socially or financially privileged. Although a military officer, he had neither the good breeding, financial means nor education to qualify him as a “gentleman” in a society still largely ordered in terms of rank and precedence (Cannadine 22). Baxter was the son of Benjamin Baxter, a ranking soldier of the 50th (Queen’s Own) Regiment who had been promoted to the level of quartermaster,⁷ and his second wife, Barbara Woods. Andrew was born in Lisbon, Portugal on 7 December 1813 and was half-brother

⁷ Promotion through the ranks was not encouraged and accounted for only twenty-two per cent of promotions in any year. Edward Spiers claims that those officers promoted from the ranks often accepted the position of quartermaster or riding master without any prospect of further promotion (3).

to Benjamin, born in 1806 to Benjamin Baxter senior and his first wife, Martha Holden (Skewes). Hannah, born a year or two later, was possibly also a child of this union, however little is known about a second sister, Maria, who possibly died in infancy (Frost, "English" 3). Family correspondence indicates that Andrew was educated in England from at least age eleven while his brother, who joined the 50th Foot without purchase in 1826, possibly attended one of the military academies. Andrew joined his brother's regiment in 1831 (Frost, "English" 4-5).

Although Baxter's family had provided the £450 necessary to purchase his commission, the rates of pay were so poor that officers could not possibly fulfil their social and financial obligations without independent means or parental support. They were expected to provide their own uniforms, cases, furniture, and servant's outfits as well as make an incoming contribution to the mess. For an officer of the infantry, the initial costs amounted to about £300 after the purchase of the commission. Thereafter the expenses involved in maintaining this lifestyle presumed a private income of between £100 and £150 for an infantry officer like Baxter (Spiers 25). Marriage to Annie – who enjoyed a degree of financial independence in that she received an allowance of £80 per annum from her uncle and guardian, and expected to inherit £20,000 from his estate (3 Sept. 1843) – promised to alleviate some of this burden. Indeed, after the marriage they relied on Annie's family for financial support and in 1838 it was Annie's uncle who lodged the necessary money for the purchase of Baxter's captaincy.

The Journal: A Nineteenth-Century Context

Annie's journal belongs to a tradition of personal record-keeping amongst English-speaking people described respectively by diary critics Harriet Blodgett and Robert Fothergill as the "eclectic private diary" (12) and "personal diary" (3). Both critics trace the beginning of this tradition to the seventeenth century: Blodgett presents the diary maintained by Lady Margaret Hoby for six years between 1599 and 1605 as the first example of this kind of writing, while for Fothergill the tradition begins with the diary kept by Samuel Pepys from January 1660 until May

1669. As a practice the personal journal as a record of day-to-day experience “flourished” in the eighteenth century (Blodgett 24) and became increasingly popular in the nineteenth century amongst both men and women of culture. It reached an “apogee” mid-century when journals were “[f]aithfully and earnestly penned by hosts of respectable people” – ladies, travellers, politicians and the Queen among them (Fothergill 34).

The literary forebears of the personal journal were diaries focused on travel, religious or spiritual development or devotion, journals of private memoranda and public records such as military annals, the ship’s log, social, political and court diaries. Each of these, as Fothergill observes, evolves from a particular habit of writing, “perform[s] a routine practical function” (16) and is “chiefly devoted to matters involving the writer only indirectly, at a remove” (3). Although such writings, with the possible exception of the religious or devotional journal, are detailed and informative in their own way as records of various aspects of social and public life, they are limited in the access they can provide to an individual life.

Critics acknowledge a wide variation in form, content, style and length of the personal journal record. William Matthews defines the personal diary simply as a “record of what interested the diarist, usually kept day by day, each day’s record being self-contained and written soon after the events occurred, the style being free from exposition” (xv). While Fothergill dismisses precise definition as unhelpful, he posits the personal journal as a record “whose prime subject is the life of the writer, valued for its own sake” (3). Cinthia Gannet simply describes it as a “protean form of European origin” (105). However the personal journal’s complexity and diversity is best encapsulated in Virginia Woolf’s description of it as “something loose knit, & yet not slovenly, so elastic that it will embrace anything, solemn, slight or beautiful that comes to mind” and which resembles “some deep old desk, or capacious hold-all, in which one flings a mass of odds & ends without looking them through” (qtd. in Blodgett 6). As Woolf acknowledges, the personal diary is eclectic; in its pages the private and the public, the sublime, the boring, the interesting and amusing, the gossip and sometimes the sordid sit side by side. The diarist does not usually single out one development, activity or feeling as more important or

interesting than another. Although not overly introspective or confessional, the personal diary will usually be sufficiently expressive to transmit some sense of the diarist's feelings, attitudes, beliefs and allegiances. The personal diary is a quotidian record which captures the texture of an individual life in process. As Fothergill argues, the personal diary records "busily loquacious lives, now extinct" but once "firmly embedded in the centre of their own existences" in such a way that they create a sense of what being alive was like (9).

Gannet's helpful summary of journal-keeping traditions describes a male tradition – exemplified by the journals of successful men such as Samuel Pepys, James Boswell and Charles Darwin – focused on public and professional success and often characterised by a "brash, but genial display of ego, [an] autonomous and coherent sense of self, ... self-confidence with language" and sometimes "graphic sexual candour" (115). Feminist scholars characterise women's personal journals differently. They identify a tradition of female journal writing which has a domestic rather than public focus, and which often lacks the confidence and candour characteristically found in male-authored journals. Nineteenth-century women's diaries are distinguished by a lack of introspection and in many cases are family documents, written with an audience in mind rather than as a private personal record. The concept of the handwritten personal journal as a vehicle for therapeutic self-examination or emancipation is a contemporary practice rather than historical reality (Blodgett 3-4). As Blodgett puts it, "the topics, attitudes and self-concepts expressed" by women in their personal writing and "the manner of expression differs from men's because [women's] interest, status and lives ... have done so" (2).

Annie's journal, as a personal account of her life and experience and focused on the everyday, is in many respects typical of journals written by other women in the nineteenth century. In the pages of her journal she records with varying commitment and detail the patterns of her days, writing whatever is of interest or seems of most importance on a particular day. She records letters received and written, books read, visits made and visitors to the house. Her journal has a social and cultural focus rather than a specifically domestic one. And while it is unusual for her to focus on the execution of household tasks, at Yambuk she writes with enthusiasm about her

experiences working outdoors mustering cattle. Travel details are usually scant and – with the exception of her record of her overland journey from Sydney to Port Fairy in 1844 – not descriptive; more often than not an anecdote about her travelling companions marks the journey rather than a detailed description of the journey or the countryside. The journal records what is personally, rather than publicly significant and political events of significance are mentioned infrequently and only in passing – and always as a background. Birthdays, wedding anniversaries and deaths are remembered as a matter of course and like many nineteenth-century diarists such entries are the occasion for reflective or summary entries (Huff, *British* xvii). The journal, although personal, is neither overly introspective nor confessional but nevertheless its daily report conveys a sense of Annie's attitudes, beliefs and insecurities. Although eclectic and inclusive, Annie's journal, like many in the nineteenth century is circumspect about issues such as sexual intimacy, childbirth or intimate aspects of personal health. As Blodgett observes, the subject of sexual relationships is rarely canvassed in nineteenth-century women's personal journals (42). Arguably Annie's journal is more self-focused than many women's but it is not used by her as a vehicle for self-improvement either through increased self-awareness, spiritual development or as a way of achieving personal transformation.

The journal's rising popularity as a writing practice in the nineteenth century is accounted for in various ways. Blodgett links the increasing interest in such practice to the ready availability of formatted diaries which featured an allotted space for appointments to be noted and memorandums made (24). Literary models such as published examples of journals focused on the writer's life as distinct from travel journals or records of spiritual development, along with fictional kinds of writing are also deemed influential. In this respect the nineteenth-century publication of Pepys' diary in 1825 and Fanny Burney's journal in 1840 provided two influential models (Gannett 114; Blodgett 35). Blodgett argues that works such as Samuel Richardson's *Pamela or Virtue Rewarded* (1740), provided fictional models for personal and expressive writing because they "promoted self-expression and prompted verbal style" (35) and demonstrated how, outside the devotional diary, a first-person narrator could extensively explore consciousness and

express emotion directly (35). Increased literacy and the greater availability of writing materials, along with the growth of a society that increasingly privileged the written word are similarly advanced as factors which influenced the growth in nineteenth-century diary-keeping (Gannett 105).

Greater nineteenth-century mobility also explains the increased popularity of the diary or journal, although the travel journal, rather than the personal journal, was frequently the literary model for this kind of writing. Both men and women wrote this kind of record. In this case writing a diary often served a dual purpose: on the one hand it created an account of a new and unusual experience for friends and family left behind and maintained a link – albeit tenuous – with home, while on the other it performed the important function of helping the diarist to adjust to new situations. Wink's analysis of the travel journals of two women who travelled across America in the nineteenth century demonstrates the ways in which keeping a journal could help women "maintain a sense of who they were while the journey took them away from the places they knew and the people who they had known themselves to be" (5). Huff associates diary-keeping with mid-nineteenth-century ideology and the importance of family. Many women were educated, as she puts it, to be the scribes who served the "fortunes of family and empire" and in this role recorded for posterity the successes of male family members ("Reading" 513). For many this was a continuation of a habit they had been encouraged to adopt as children and which as adults they were expected to continue (Blodgett 64).

Annie does not say why she began her journal but there are factors which suggest that at the outset the diary's purpose was simply to create a record of her overseas adventures and travels – a record which could be shared with family and friends, and that mimicked similar published accounts of voyages and travels. Firstly, the type, length and frequency of the early entries suggest this was to be a one-volume account of an overseas sojourn that she expected would last five or six years. Secondly, the journal was begun at the point of embarkation, rather than at the beginning of the calendar year for 1834 or indeed at the time of her marriage some seven months before embarkation on the *Augusta Jessie*. Whether the journal was originally intended as the

source document for a fuller account is impossible to say, although the material conditions of the volume militate against this. However, Annie's expected travel trajectory did not eventuate and she remained in the Australian colonies, exchanging a mobile military life for that of a squatter in the bush. And unlike many women, for whom the difficulties of a bush life precluded the continuation of a journal, Annie continued to write.

In its entirety Annie's extant journal record constitutes, as Frost contends, a "remarkable achievement, unmatched in colonial Australian letters" (*Journal* xvii). Besides the sections written in Van Diemen's Land the journal records settler life in the Macleay River District of New South Wales and the Portland region of what is now Victoria (known as the Port Phillip District before 1850) and travel to, and within, the Australian colonies. In the 1850s the journal records Annie's experiences in England and Ireland before her return to Victoria in 1857 – following the suicide of her estranged first husband – along with details of her second marriage and another pastoral venture, this time in the Western Districts of Victoria. The journal documents the failure of this project, Robert Dawbin's return to England in 1863 and Annie's life in Melbourne until she rejoined him in 1865. The journal is silent for the three years Annie and Dawbin were together in England, but she again took up her pen in January 1868 to record her third voyage to the southern hemisphere. She writes regularly but without enthusiasm until the journal's abrupt and unexplained closure four months later.

First-hand accounts of colonial experience are not in themselves unusual. Patricia Clarke's and Dale Spender's edited collection, *Lifelines: Australian Women's Letters and Diaries, 1788-1840* (1992), reveals a rich tradition of women's, mostly unpublished, personal writing while Elizabeth Webby, in *Colonial Voices: Letters, Diaries, Journalism and Other Accounts of Nineteenth-Century Australia* (1989), provides evidence of published personal and journalistic writing. However, few, if any, colonial journals or writings have the length and scope of Annie's manuscript journal. Most do not provide such a detailed insight into colonial life over such a long period of time, in so many different locations and from so many perspectives. The lengthy diaries of early colonists in Van Diemen's Land – G.T.W.B. (George Thomas William Blamey) Boyes

and Robert Knopwood – are perhaps exceptions in that both were maintained over a number of years, however both are focused on one colonial location. Knopwood began his journal in 1803 when he joined David Collins’s expedition to Port Phillip. He continued to make regular entries until his death in 1838. Although Knopwood’s record spans a period equal to that covered in Annie’s journal, it provides only a brief literal account of his daily activity. Boyes’s journal is carefully written in a series of marbled hardboard bound notebooks of uniform size and shape. Writing only on the recto pages he records his experience as a public servant in Hobart Town between 1826 and 1853. Boyes’s health, the weather and the means by which he travelled to and from his office are frequently featured in the daily entries. Both journals are informative about aspects of colonial life but each lacks the personal inflection that distinguishes Annie’s journal. Both journals are ostensibly public records – records of a colony rather than a life.

Annie’s manuscript has suffered minimal intervention of any kind. A thirty-page section was destroyed by Andrew Baxter in the early 1840s, while two volumes written between July 1841 and July 1843 were given to Robert Massie, an admirer of Annie’s when she lived at Yesabba, and never returned. In terms of self-censorship, with the exception of the removal of some pages here and there and some passages which were vigorously crossed out – possibly at the time – so as to obscure what was written there, Annie’s interventions were negligible. There is no evidence to suggest that the text was extensively rewritten or reworked, corrections and revisions are minimal and there are few false starts. While there is some evidence that the journal was occasionally written up from notes there is nothing that suggests the journal notebooks existed in any other form and in this light the extant journal is original rather than fair copy. Several examples illustrate this point: a second series of entries for the 11-13 November 1834 is crossed through, while Annie curtails an entry for 8 December 1850 in which she reports a fatal boating accident with the comment “I find I’ve noted this before.”

This was not always the case; much personal writing was destroyed by its writer either because it had lost its significance, or was deemed embarrassing or in some cases incriminating. In other cases original documents were edited by family members to protect or even enhance

family reputations or those of other persons named therein. As an example, Sarah Davenport's reminiscences – delivered as a typescript to the La Trobe Library in Melbourne in the 1970s, presumably by surviving relatives – were discovered by Frost to be an edited version of Davenport's original handwritten one. The original – grammatically incorrect and poorly spelt – reflects Davenport's background amongst the millworkers of Manchester and reveals an unsophisticated and plain-speaking woman (Frost, *No Place* 14). Diarists, too, sometimes made significant editorial changes to their work: Katherine Mansfield reportedly destroyed a large section of her early diaries (Blodgett 45), while Anne Frank revised her manuscript journal extensively in anticipation of future publication. She provided context to remove confusion, omitted what she considered uninteresting and expanded some sections (Bloom 29-30). In an Australian context the journal of Georgiana McCrae provides an example of a personal text that was considerably altered before publication. *Georgina's Journal* published in 1934 is a heavily edited version of a manuscript, which is not the original journal but a copy made at some time by the diarist, and then edited by her grandson, poet Hugh McCrae. Georgiana's biographer Brenda Niall comments that although many of Hugh McCrae's changes are "minor, some are distinguished by significant shifts in tone and emphasis" (xv).

Frost describes the preservation of Annie's journal as "one of the happy accidents rare in history" ("Annie" 29). The journal came to the Mitchell Library in 1952; before this it formed part of Sir William Dixon's large collection of Australiana. Dixon purchased the journal volumes in 1932 on the recommendation of Melbourne bookseller, A. H. (Albert Henry) Spencer. In a letter to Dixon dated 12 October 1932, which recommends the journal's purchase, Spencer describes the journal as "remarkable and amazing" and of "great historical importance." He writes that were it to be published it "would cause a sensation ... not solely for its value as history ... not solely for its scandal ... *but first and foremost for its literary quality which is of the very highest order.*" Spencer enthusiastically ranks Annie's journal alongside Marie Bashkirtseff's *Journal of a Young Artist*, and W.N.P. Barbellion's (actually Bruce Frederick Cummings') *The Journal of a Disappointed Man*, both of which were enthusiastically received and critically acclaimed for their

literary and autobiographical innovation when first published. The journal's whereabouts in the sixty-four years between its conclusion and its purchase by Dixson is unclear – presumably it remained with Annie until her death in 1905 and then afterwards with some other person. Perhaps, as Frost suggests, Annie carefully chose “the beneficiaries of her will with an eye to the box of manuscripts” obtained by Spencer twenty seven years after her death (*Face x*).

In previous years Frost has worked extensively on the journal. Most recently she edited a ten-year period of the journal in *The Journal of Annie Baxter Dawbin 1858-1868* (1998) for the Academy Editions of Australian Literature. This volume is an unabridged scholarly reading text of the final years of the journal and is important as a record of pastoral life in Victoria's Western Districts, life in Melbourne in the prosperous decades of the 1850s and 1860s and Annie's second marriage. The inclusion of a section of the journal in the first series of this prestigious project attests to the importance of this text and women's personal writing more generally in the Australian colonial context. Elizabeth Webby hails the edition as a “significant recent publication” and sets Annie alongside notable nineteenth-century letter writers and diarists such as Rachel Henning, Louisa Clifton, Elizabeth Macarthur and Boyes (*Cambridge* 53-4). G.W. Wilkes likewise welcomed the publication, commending the “meticulously edited” text as an “invaluable reference work for its period and a fascinating resource for the study of the figuration of women in their own writing in the nineteenth century, and for the audience they sometimes presumed” (163, 167). Previously Frost included sections of the journal written in 1843 and 1844 while Annie and Baxter were squatters at Yesabba in the Macleay River District in the 1995 revised edition of *No Place for a Nervous Lady*. The sections of the journal published in this volume chronicle the Australian pioneer settler experience and Annie's growing disillusion with her first marriage. In *A Face in the Glass: the Journal and Life of Annie Baxter Dawbin* (1992), Frost interweaves her own commentary with excerpts from the journal to create a biographical account of Annie's life from the journal's beginning until her death in 1905. Sylvia Martin commends this text as a “provocative and challenging account of one colonial woman's life text” which nevertheless “resonates beyond the particular.” Martin argues that “Frost has produced an

open text ... which implicitly asks more questions than it answers and which unsettles stereotypes of the pioneer woman, especially those of the noble and self-sacrificing battler type produced by some feminists engaged in 'recovery' research" (130).

In the first edition of *No Place for a Nervous Lady* (1984) the included excerpt was from "Letters to Henrietta" an unattributed sketchbook from the National Library, identified by Frost as Annie's work. The sketchbook, as the name suggests, is a series of letters written to the fictitious "Henrietta" (perhaps Annie's sister Harriet) about her bush life at Yesabba in the Macleay River. This text has formed the basis of early criticism and interest in Annie's personal writing and indeed in women's personal writing generally in an Australian context. Both Delys Bird and Dorothy Jones base their analysis of Australian women's journal and letter writing largely on the texts presented by Frost in *No Place for a Nervous Lady*. Delys Bird acknowledges Annie as a skilled writer when she observes that Annie "constructs a deliberately amusing narrative" in which she "creates a deliberately amusing parody of pioneer life" (30) which records "quite severe deprivation without recourse to sentiment or melodrama" (31). Similarly Robert Dixon acknowledges the publication of Annie's writing along with that of other women as an important contribution in "bringing new texts and new themes to the centre of Australia's cultural history" (136).

Annie's writing in Van Diemen's Land may be considered alongside the published writing of other colonial women including Louisa Anne Meredith, Caroline Denison, Jane Franklin and Elizabeth Fenton, all of whom shared a background similar to Annie, insofar as they were educated women from genteel British families who had travelled with their husbands to the colony. Like Annie, these women lived in and wrote about Van Diemen's Land in the 1830s and 1840s. Jane Franklin was the wife of Sir John Franklin, Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land from 1836 until 1843. Selected excerpts of her writing, focused on the Franklin's seven-year gubernatorial sojourn in Van Diemen's Land are published in Frances Woodward's *Portrait of Jane: A Life of Lady Franklin* (1951). Franklin's carefully composed letters to her sister Mary

Simpkinson, which form the basis of Woodward's biography, are opinionated and focused largely on political affairs and reveal, as Penny Russell observes, a "devoted and unassuming wife" ("Wife" 39) but are not informative about aspects of day-to-day living. Sections of Caroline Denison's journal and letter-book are published in *Varieties of Vice-Regal Life by Sir William and Lady Denison*. In this work, prepared for publication by William Denison and first published in 1869, Caroline Denison's letters to her mother are included to complement Sir William's own writings. The letters, presumably written in a letter book, have the form of a journal. Caroline Denison's published writing is largely descriptive and focused on informing her mother about the local environment and her husband's professional activities. If the letters included anything personal – and presumably they did as news of the Denisons's large family would be of considerable interest to a grandmother – it has not been included in Sir William's volume. Her writing is informative and interesting. She appears to have a good grasp of colonial affairs, she offers good descriptions of colonial geography and her summaries of various issues are succinct and informative. She reveals herself as a supportive, deferential and solicitous wife, concerned about his well-being and reprising unquestionably his opinion. This selection, one may assume, is heavily mediated and possibly elides whatever did not serve Sir William Denison's express purpose (which was to represent him in a good light). Both women write personal texts which effectively function as public records, in which support of their husbands and British colonial endeavour is implicit. Both effectively reflect the views of the colonising culture insofar as they both uphold colonial enterprise as improving.

According to Ann Standish, both Elizabeth Fenton and Louisa Meredith, record their experiences in Van Diemen's Land from "within the conventions of the travel narrative." Both women create works which are essentially "narratives of settlement and colonisation – narratives of 'home'" in which they describe their experiences travelling through and settling into the new land. In both cases the women are concerned to display their respectability and femininity. Standish suggests this is achieved by a narrative focus on "bringing civilisation to the wilderness" rather than the adventure more traditionally associated with travel writing (36). Although

purporting to describe the everyday, their writing is not focused on the personal – they do not, as Standish observes, “linger on their personal emotions or circumstances” (26) but are rather focused on depicting aspects of their lives in the colony for an English audience. Elizabeth Fenton’s *The Journal of Mrs Fenton: a Narrative of Her Life in India, the Isle of France (Mauritius), and Tasmania during the Years 1826-1830* was published in 1901 some twenty-five years after her death at the instigation of one of her daughters. It is an edited version of the journal which records her travels in India and Mauritius and her early days in Van Diemen’s Land before she settled at Fenton Forest near New Norfolk, 22 miles (35 km) from Hobart Town. Fenton arrived in Hobart Town on 11 August 1829 from Mauritius to join Michael Fenton, whom she had married in April 1828 following the sudden death of her first husband, Neil Campbell, in India, one year after their marriage. A short section of her published journal focuses on her arrival and early months in Van Diemen’s Land before settling into her new home at Fenton Forest. Fenton writes that she begins her journal in response to a request from a friend “who would like to realise in [her] own mind the actual situation and pursuits of my many friends there [in India], and above all, whatever may particularly concern yourself” (2). She reluctantly agrees to satisfy her friend’s demand for a “familiar picture of the everyday occurrences, manners and habits of life of persons undistinguished by life or fame” (v) and distinguishes the journal she will write for her friend from family communications “engrossed in everyday affairs and anxious references to home.” She opines that “though [she] might want the power, [she] retained the *will* to amuse her friend” (2). The Van Diemen’s Land section chronicles a social milieu of urban visiting, walking, shopping and domestic troubles. Elizabeth Fenton writes well and with humour, although it is not possible to ascertain the level of editorial re-fashioning.

Louisa Anne Meredith’s *My Home in Tasmania during a Residence of Nine Years* (1852) has been described by Edmund Morris Miller as “still one of the best authorities on Tasmanian life and society during the forties [1840s] of last century” (216). Dixon reiterates this view when he describes her work as representative of the “best” written from “the lady’s point of view” (134). Meredith’s two-volume work reflects on her first years in the colony which would become

her home until her death in 1895. She arrived in Van Diemen's Land in 1840 with her husband, Charles, and young son from Sydney where they had lived since 1839. They farmed first at Springvale on the colony's east coast before financial difficulties forced the sale of this property in 1844. The family moved to Port Sorell, following Charles's appointment as police magistrate. In 1848 Charles resigned this position and the family returned to the east coast where he rented a section of his father's significant land holdings. Meredith's text documents her family's experience in each of these locations and is descriptive of place, flora and fauna. She introduces her work as a "personal narrative" and an "unvarnished" history which is concerned with the "simple realities around us" (1: vii) and defends the inclusion of "more domestic details than other wise [she] might have thought it pleasant or desirable to do" on the grounds that such an approach is necessary to counter the "great amount of misconception and the positive misrepresentations relative to the social condition of this colony, now prevalent, not in England only, but wherever the name of Van Diemen's Land is known" (1: vii).

As Patricia Grimshaw and Standish argue, Meredith offers a tightly controlled narrative of her family's Tasmanian experience. She writes herself within a paradigm of respectable colonial femininity as a supportive wife, caring mother and efficient and resourceful manager of a household with limited means (6). The financial difficulties they experience in 1844 are not of their own making but a result of the "unprincipled conduct of persons whom we believed trustworthy" (2: 89). Meredith's support of her husband extends so far as to adopt unquestionably his version of frontier violence in which he was implicated. While Meredith's text is comprehensive and undeniably informative about many aspects of colonial culture in Van Diemen's Land, the attitudes and beliefs she expresses reflect those of the landowning settlers. Meredith lauds the penal system as "highly successful" and asserts that in "five cases out of six" a system aided by masters possessed of "common sense, probity and humanity" successfully converted "idle unprincipled outcasts into industrious trustworthy servants" (1: 41-42). While supportive of government endeavour she is critical of the "unambitious multitude" (1: 29).

The writing of all these women effectively supports “British presence and British claims to the land” (Standish 25). Their writing reflects what Dixon describes as an “officially acceptable interpretation of settlement” as a progressive undertaking (126). The published texts of Denison, Franklin, Meredith and Fenton are distinguished by a level of control that is not apparent in Annie’s text. Their ties to the colonial enterprise are arguably much stronger than Annie’s whose commitment changes in the course of her experience. Her text is much more firmly grounded in the everyday and it represents a much more complex and confused world than that articulated by the other women. And while the subjectivity of these women as respectable married women was secure, Annie must constantly negotiate her position when in Van Diemen’s Land. At Yambuk, even though her marriage was unhappy, she was still Baxter’s wife and mistress of Yambuk. However in Van Diemen’s Land she was either Baxter’s unhappy and abused wife or his estranged wife; her name was linked with various men, she was the subject of gossip and exclusion and sometimes accused of impropriety. Her respectability and acceptance were never guaranteed and although her social interaction was always with the colonial elite her social position remained precarious.

Editorial Method and Practice

The transcription presented as a part of this thesis was prepared from a typescript of the complete journal produced by Frost in the 1980s from the Mitchell Library’s microfilmed copy of the original journal. The initial preparation of the transcription involved proofreading a hard copy of those sections of the typescript written in Van Diemen’s Land against the original manuscript, rather than the microfilmed copy. The typescript was checked for accuracy of textual details such as correct wording, phrasing, punctuation, spelling and paragraphing and amended as necessary. Pagination, which had not been consistently recorded throughout the original typescript, was incorporated in the revised document and the journal notebooks were checked for any extra-textual elements. These revisions were achieved in two visits each of two weeks duration to the

Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales. Changes were marked onto the typescript draft and this version was corrected following my return to Hobart. In the process of making these corrections, those sections of the text which appeared inconsistent with Annie's usual writing practice were excerpted (the date of composition and page number within the original journal was recorded) for re-checking on a subsequent visit to the Mitchell Library. All passages written in French were similarly excerpted for later translation.

The task of checking the manuscript, although time-consuming and detailed, was necessary to provide an accurate and reliable transcript from which an equally accurate and reliable abridged text could be created. It was also important in terms of developing a sense of the person writing and the journal as a personal document, insofar as it provided a point of physical contact between me as reader and Annie as writer. Reading the manuscript, I was touching the pages that Annie had filled, sometimes in disappointment, despondency, disillusion, or anger, sometimes in sadness and at others in happiness. As Gillian Beer poignantly observes, this is an activity in which "the past body of the writer is here insurgent, meeting the reader's hand, matching it, touching it" (116). This activity also provided an opportunity to check the journal for extra-textual elements – newspaper clippings, locks of hair, drawings, photographs, dried flowers or scraps of life – which can be indicative of important developments or events in the diarist's life. Such inclusions sometimes provide clues which are not articulated in writing and thus are important to expand a reader's understanding of a diarist's life and her text. While these elements are limited in Annie's journal, the manuscript provides other clues: crossed-out sections, repeated page numbers, superscripted words, passages or letters which are not usually part of a "polished text" and all of which contribute another layer of meaning. Vigorous crossing-out can be an expression of anger, or indicative of the necessity of concealment, as can the evidence of removed pages. False starts and repeated page numbers can convey confusion not immediately apparent in the words on the page. Such things might contradict or augment what is written. While the transcription can record these instances, it can never reproduce them entirely and inevitably something of the immediacy and confusion of the creation is lost in the translation from hand-

written manuscript to printed text. For this reason photographs of sample journal pages and the journals are included so as to create a link between the reader of this thesis and the manuscript (see fig. 1-13).

The pages of Annie's manuscript are crowded but neat as, like many nineteenth-century diarists, she wrote to conserve space. Generally she left no space between entries, nor did she leave a margin, choosing instead to begin writing flush against the edge of the page. Similarly, a new paragraph is rarely indented from the margin and does not necessarily begin on a new line but often follows the previous one, signalled only by a small gap between the new sentence and the one preceding and a change of subject matter. The handwriting is that of an educated Englishwoman of the period; Annie writes clearly and neatly, and her writing is not difficult to decipher. The text is clean except for those few places where lines of writing have been vigorously crossed out or erased; corrections and revisions are minimal and there are few false starts. The journal contains very little that can be termed extra-textual. In those journal volumes examined in preparation of this thesis only one newspaper cutting was inserted – no locks of hair, pressed flowers, sketches, dance cards, no likeness of herself or any of her friends (male or female), no letters or photos are tucked between pages. For many other women diarists the number of extra-textual inclusions creates a scrapbook rather than journal effect. In Annie's text the absence of additional material, while perhaps a consequence of her mobility might also indicate that she privileged language for memories.

The transcription was intended, in the first instance, to provide a reliable resource of original material from which selections could be made to produce an abridged reading text. The existence and availability of this transcription then becomes what Philippe Lejeune calls an "avant-texte" for the edited and annotated "polished" diary ("Auto-Genesis" 207) that my interventions produced. Included electronically in this thesis, it enables readers of the annotated and abridged journal the opportunity to observe the editing process. Importantly, this transcription provides a reliable and readily searchable historical document which can be made widely available for further research and interpretation.

While it is undeniable that only a facsimile can capture the inherent idiosyncrasy of the handwritten manuscript, both the full transcription and its abridgement are organised so that the interested reader might gain some understanding of what appears on the manuscript page (and how it appears) and subsequently gain some insight into the processes of the journal's composition. To this end editorial intervention has been kept to a minimum. In both versions, authorial idiosyncrasies such as erratic capitalisation and inconsistencies of punctuation and spelling are reproduced. Likewise, crossings out, underlined and superscripted text are reproduced exactly as they occur in the journal manuscript. In the transcription, but not its abridgement, Annie's exact sequence of pagination is included and the unorthodox paragraphing of the original is retained as far as possible. In some cases a degree of editorial comment is required to establish that an irregularity is a faithful transcription rather than a case of editorial error or oversight.

The abridged reading text represents a fifty per cent reduction of the original from 170,000 to fewer than 85,000 words. The editorial strategy in abridgement has been to preserve the integrity of the original text as a record of Annie's life and to communicate something of the diary's developing form and style as a serial life-writing project. The resulting text reflects as accurately as possible the preoccupations, emphasis and interests of the original record and follows the unexpurgated journal's integral autobiographical thread. No arbitrary decision was adopted about the kind, number or location of entries to be expurgated. The revision process was repeated a number of times, many decisions were taken and then reversed about what could be excluded and what must be included. Each entry or utterance received individual attention and each time a judgement was made. In some cases complete entries or a series of entries were expurgated but in many cases only a part of a particular entry was removed. Care has been taken to include sufficient intact entries to demonstrate the essential character of the record as an eclectic personal journal, and the internal structure of individual entries, many of which are characterised by sudden variations in tone and subject. I have endeavoured to produce a text which is representative of the original in terms of structure, form, style and content, but is not

schematic. In each case the abridged text of a particular visit is approximately half the length of the original.

While the emphasis of the abridged text reflects the emphasis of the original, in order to achieve a text appropriate to a PhD length study – and a text more accessible to an anticipated general reader – firm editorial principles were necessary. Diaries such as Annie's, where the subject matter is diverse and the record is kept for a considerable length of time, are distinguished by a proliferation of stories and characters. Annie had a wide acquaintance and maintained regular correspondence with people in various Australian colonies and in England, and often included a report of letters received in her journal. As a general rule much of this content, especially where it involves third parties who are not part of the Van Diemen's Land record, has been excised. Similarly, in order to reduce the length of the text and achieve some measure of narrative cohesion, not all narrative threads are followed. Like many diarists, Annie often recorded the titles of the books she read and, while it was not possible or even desirable to retain all these occurrences, enough are included in the abridged text to indicate the frequency and scope of her reading as well as the importance of this activity.

Annie's journal, like other quotidian records, is distinguished by a number of entries, or parts of entries, which simply describe the routine daily activity of movement from one place to another or the series of visits made or received. Although such entries are integral as a record of the everyday and important in terms of validating activity and establishing social position, they tend to become repetitious and dull and in many cases can be removed without causing an overall detrimental effect. Sufficient examples are retained intact to demonstrate that these kinds of entries are fundamental to the journal. On the other hand, repetitive introspection or articulations of anxiety are deemed indicative of an underlying but worrying preoccupation and every effort was made to retain examples of this kind of writing. This is certainly the case in a series of entries in 1838 in which Annie reflects on childlessness. In these musings she expresses relief that she has no children, although her narrative preoccupation suggests that her childlessness, although in

a sense fortuitous given the state of relations between she and Baxter, was a source of anxiety and perhaps regret.

The abridged text includes all major events reported in the period of the record and nothing considered to be essential to an understanding of Annie's personality has been removed. She is represented in all her complexity; examples of idiosyncratic, inexplicable and irrational behaviour, attitudes and beliefs have been included alongside examples of her interests, strengths, preoccupations, anxieties and uncertainties. No attempt has been made to conceal either Annie's characteristic vanity or her social pretensions. In order to protect the reputation of the diarist or people mentioned or criticised in a journal, an editor can be tempted to remove entries that could be detrimental to the reputations of the diarist or other parties. Often the judgements Annie made about others were hasty and unkind and one might be tempted to elide them in favour of taste and sensitivity. Yet as Mary Rubio comments, criticisms of others in a personal diary often say more about the diarist than the people involved and for this reason they often can be revealing and should be retained (62). Similarly, while many of the attitudes Annie, as a nineteenth-century gentlewoman, harboured about race, social status and gender have been shown to be inaccurate, or are now considered outmoded, and in some cases could be offensive to some modern readers, these too have been included. The scholarly apparatus which accompanies each visit embeds them in their particular cultural, historical, social and personal context and thus provides a way to read and understand the journal.

A manuscript journal that has not been prepared for publication by its writer can be rendered accessible by providing an appropriate context and identifying people, places, literary and musical works mentioned in the text. The scholarly apparatus of the abridged version of Annie Baxter's journal presented here is comprehensive and both explanatory and interpretative. A rationale for annotating the abridged text has been devised from the specifications of the *Academy Editions of Australian Literature Manual for Editors*, published in 1994 but still considered the standard for scholarly editing in Australia. I have also taken into consideration the recommendations in Michael Stevens' and Steven Berg's *Editing Historical Documents: A*

Handbook for Practice (1997), and the editorial practice of editors such as Lucy Frost in *The Journal of Annie Baxter Dawbin, 1858-1868* (1998), Penny Russell in *This Errant Lady: Jane Franklin's Overland Journey to Port Phillip and Sydney, 1839* (2002) and Elaine Foreman Crane in *The Diary of Elizabeth Drinker: The Life Cycle of an Eighteenth-Century Woman* (1994), as well as my own judgement about what a contemporary audience can be expected to know about various aspects of nineteenth-century culture and Tasmanian history and geography. In order to produce a text for the widest possible audience, the thesis assumes no prior knowledge of Tasmanian geography and history, or nineteenth-century culture more generally. In this respect people, places, authors and literary and musical works are identified where possible. Words not in common usage and points of nineteenth-century etiquette are explained. French language sections are reproduced in the abridged text and the translation appears as a footnote. The resultant apparatus incorporates explanatory and interpretative material in the introductions to individual visits as well as footnotes, maps and a biographical directory for significant or frequently mentioned individuals. The overall aim was to achieve clarity and enhance understanding without overly cluttering the reading page and therefore compromising the reading experience by erecting too many barriers between the diarist and the reader.

The introductions for individual visits provide continuity between visit records and a context in which to read each account, suggest reading strategies and discuss those aspects of culture which the visit highlights. They are structured to accommodate both specialist and general readers insofar as each begins by filling in the biographical gap between the end of one visit and the beginning of another, followed by an outline of the events that occur in the relevant visit narrative, before moving on to discuss technical aspects such as the record's location within the journal and literary aspects of the text. They are intended to support rather than overwhelm the abridged journal text they introduce and are designed to be read in conjunction with the primary text.

Attempts have been made to identify all individuals mentioned in the journal. In many cases this information was available in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* (ADB), or the

Dictionary of Australian Artists (DAAO). In other cases the extensive records of the Archives Office of Tasmania, newspapers of the day and local and family history research provided the necessary information for identification. Details about individuals who feature prominently in the journal over a number of years, along with members of the Hadden and Baxter families, are given in a “Biographical Directory” at the end of the reading text. Information about those individuals mentioned only once or twice, or whose appearance is limited to one visit or a section of the visit, is generally included as footnotes. A footnote is sometimes used to identify a family connection and thus direct readers to the appropriate entry in the “Biographical Directory” or to clarify individual identity. In the thesis entries in this directory are referenced by “q.v.” Relatively few people were unable to be identified but to avoid confusion the footnote “Not identified” is included for clarification.

Publication details of literary and musical works mentioned in the text are similarly included as footnotes where available. Maps are supplied along with descriptions of all places mentioned in the journal sections abridged here as an aid to making sense of space, place and distance. Explanatory and sometimes supplementary information that provides additional layers of context, alternative or additional accounts of particular episodes is similarly included as footnotes. As Frost observes, Annie used inverted commas liberally (*Journal* liii) – sometimes they enclose religious or literary quotation, colloquialisms or proverbs and sometimes apparently her own words. Religious and literary quotation is often inaccurate, however in each case an attempt has been made to trace its origin, and the source included as a footnote. No explanation is offered for those that cannot be identified.

Explanatory footnotes are more extensive when the journal begins; the reader’s lack of familiarity with the world of the diary, as well as the journal’s content and Annie’s writing style, necessitate this. In the early sections short entries record a changing environment and people are typically introduced without qualification. Annie does not introduce her siblings nor does she explain the family connections between the people she meets in Van Diemen’s Land in the 1830s; these connections are intuited rather than explained. In later entries, when Annie’s writing style

has become more discursive and the reader has developed an understanding of people and places mentioned in the journal, the need for extensive explanatory notes lessens.



Figure 1: Notebook 1(MS Q181 Item 1).

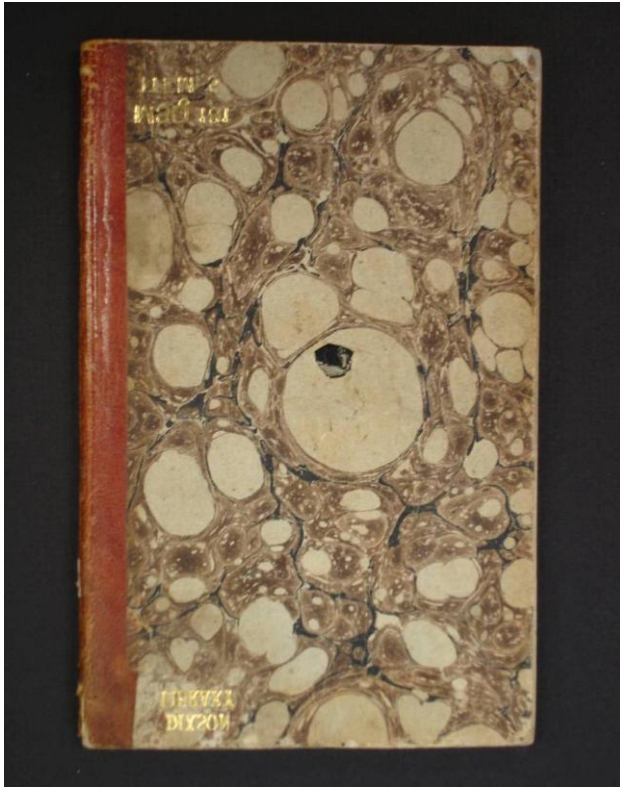


Figure 2: Notebook 5 (MS Q181 Item 5).

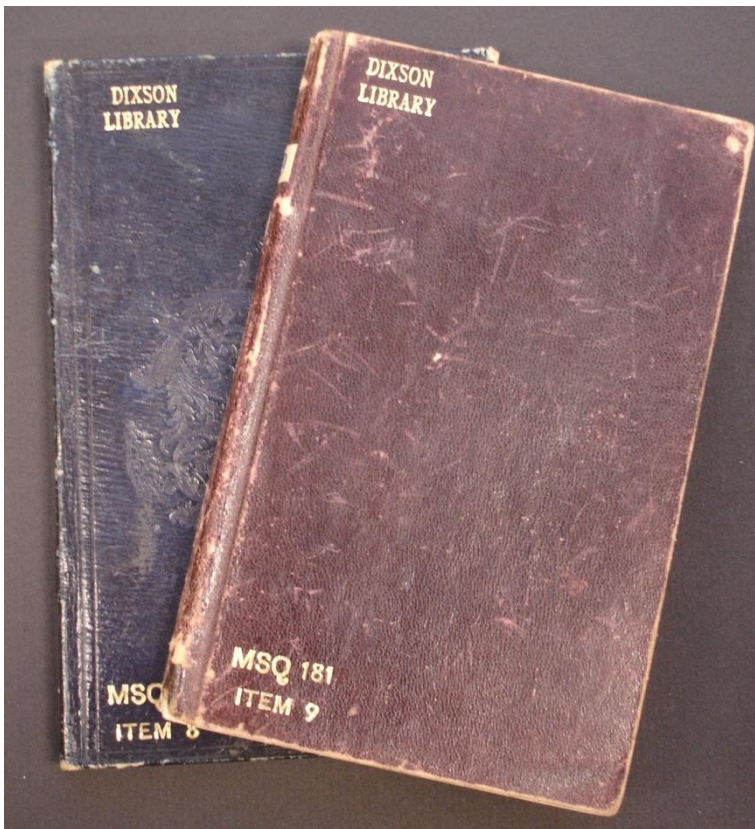


Figure 3: Notebook 8 (MS Q 181 Item 8) and Notebook 9 (MS Q 181 Item 9).



Figure 4: Notebook 10 (MS Q 181 Item 10) and Notebook 11 (MS Q 181 Item 11).



Figure 5: Journal volumes which record Annie's fifth visit to Van Diemen's Land.

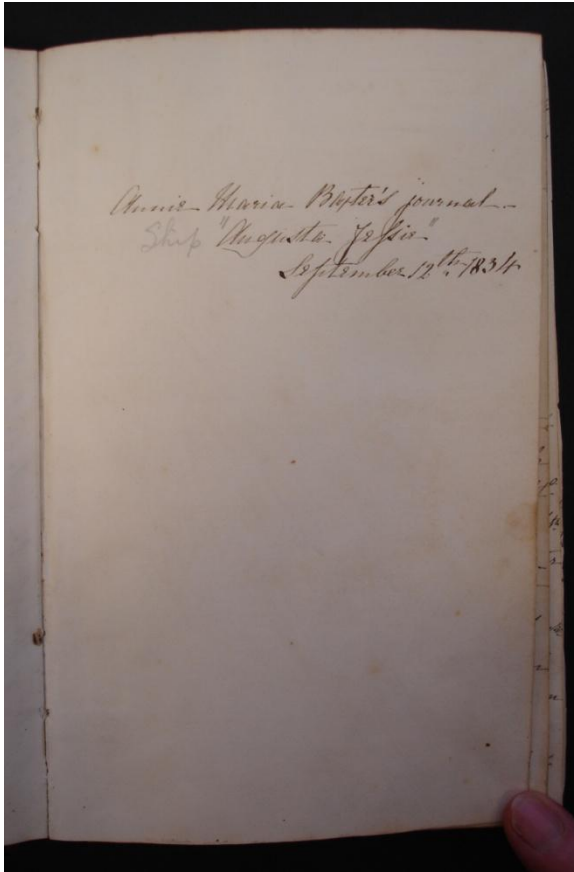


Figure 6: Inscription first recto page Notebook 1.

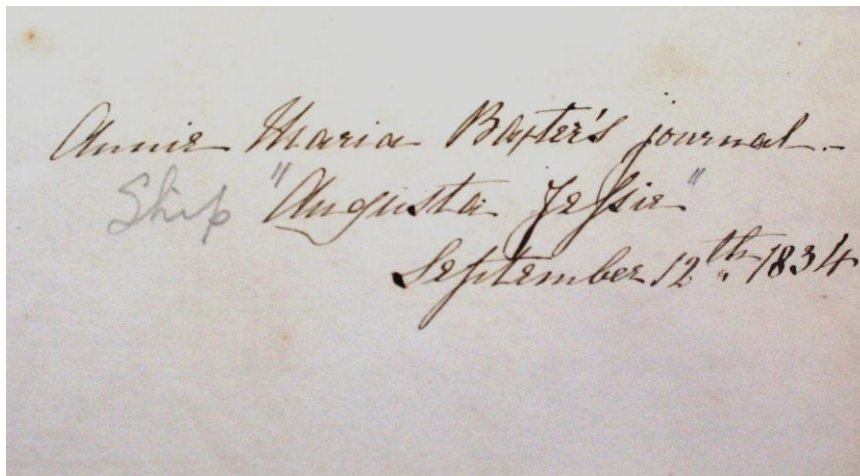


Figure 7: Detail of inscription first recto page Notebook 1.

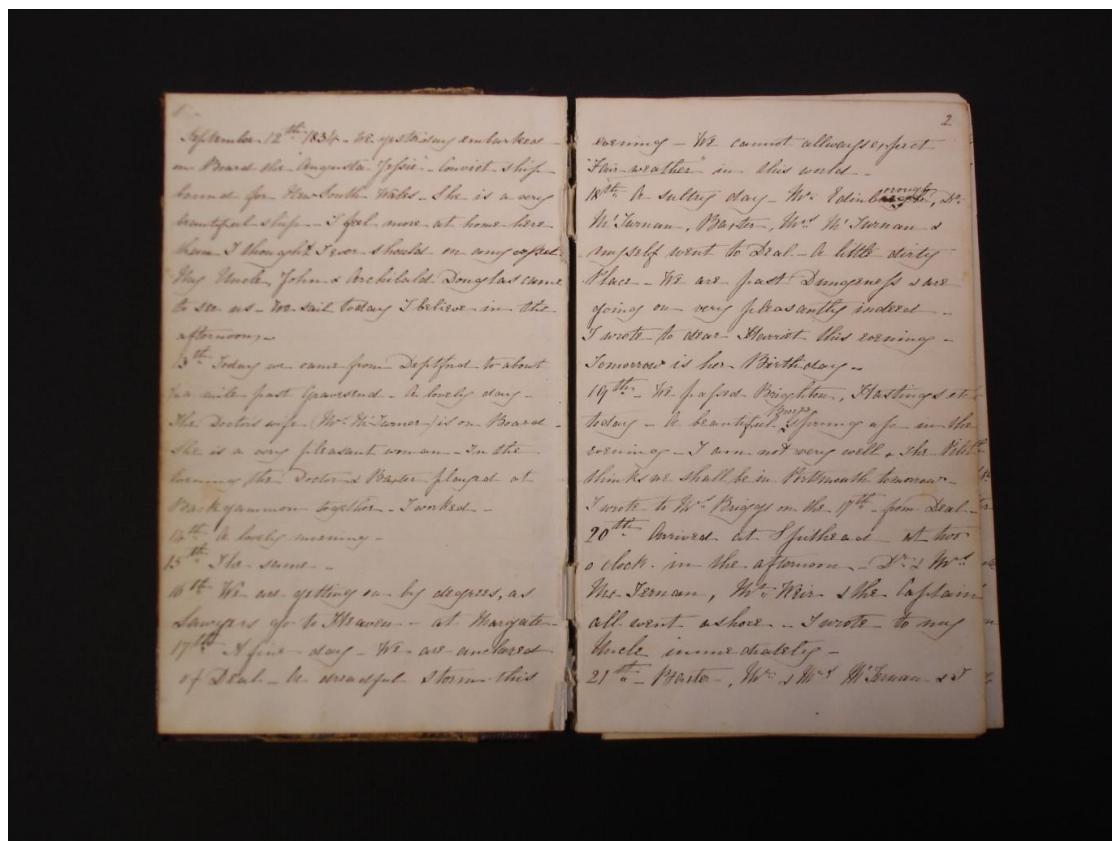


Figure 8: First pages Notebook 1: September 1834.

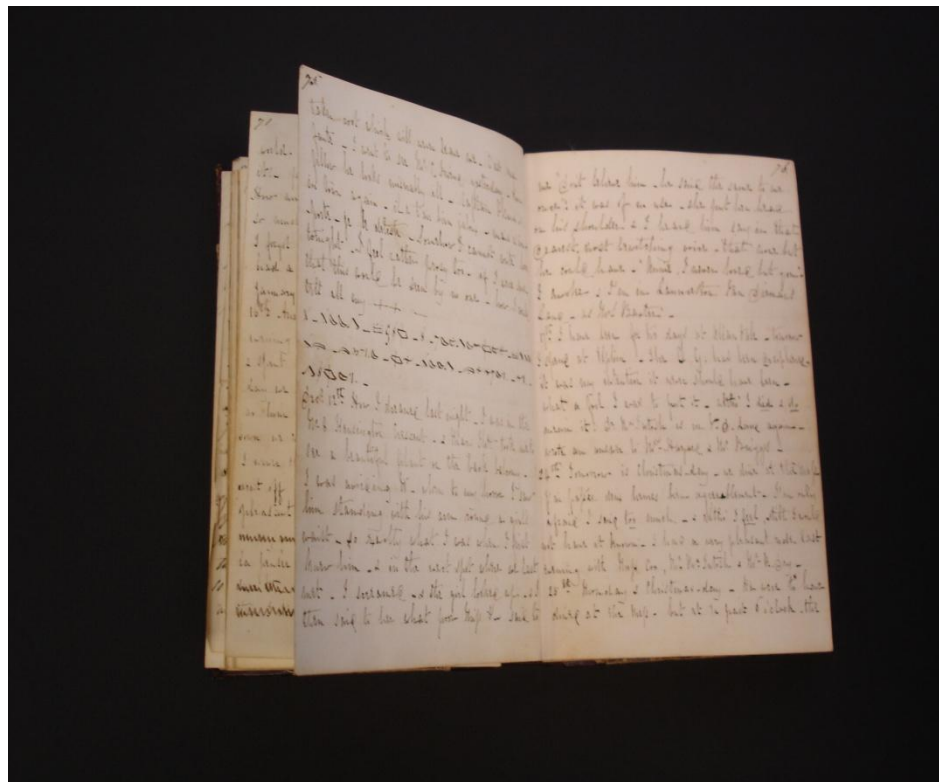


Figure 9: Sample journal pages Notebook 1: January 1838.

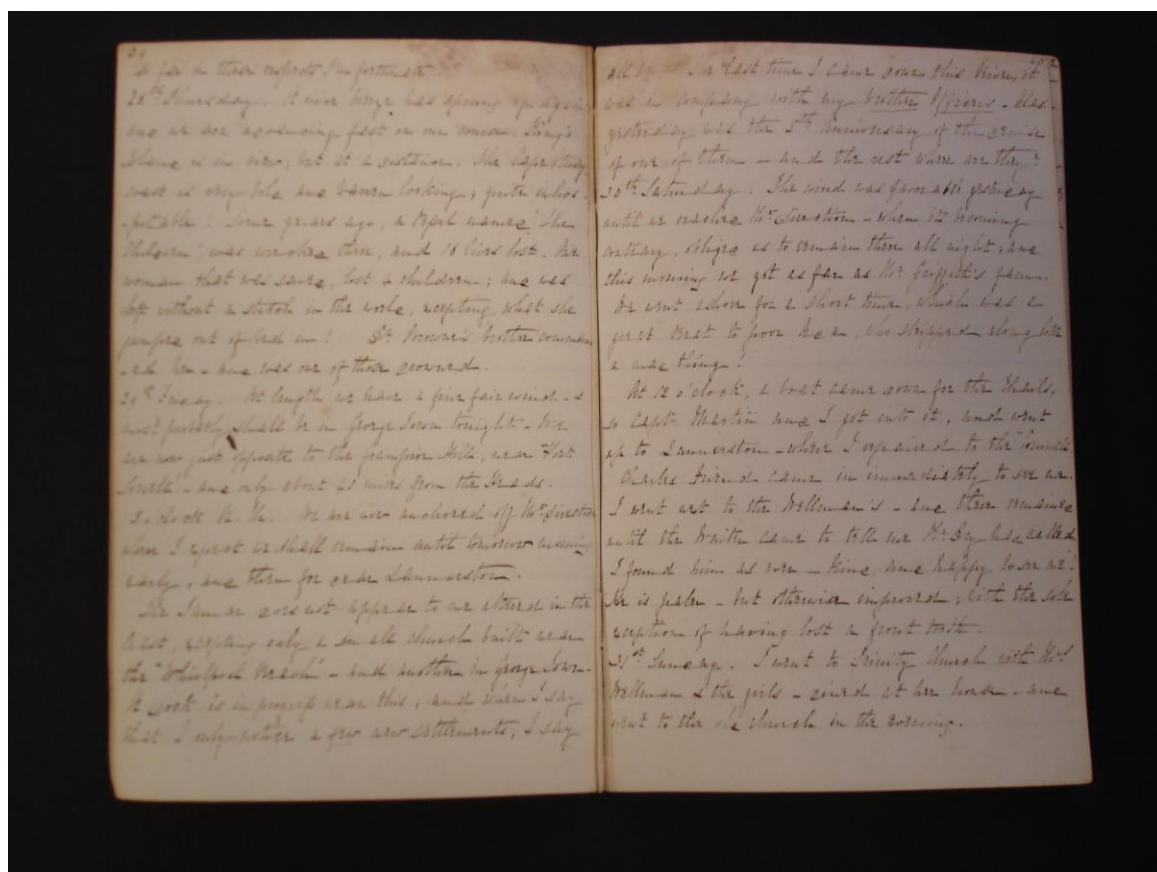


Figure 12: Sample journal pages Notebook 5: November 1844.

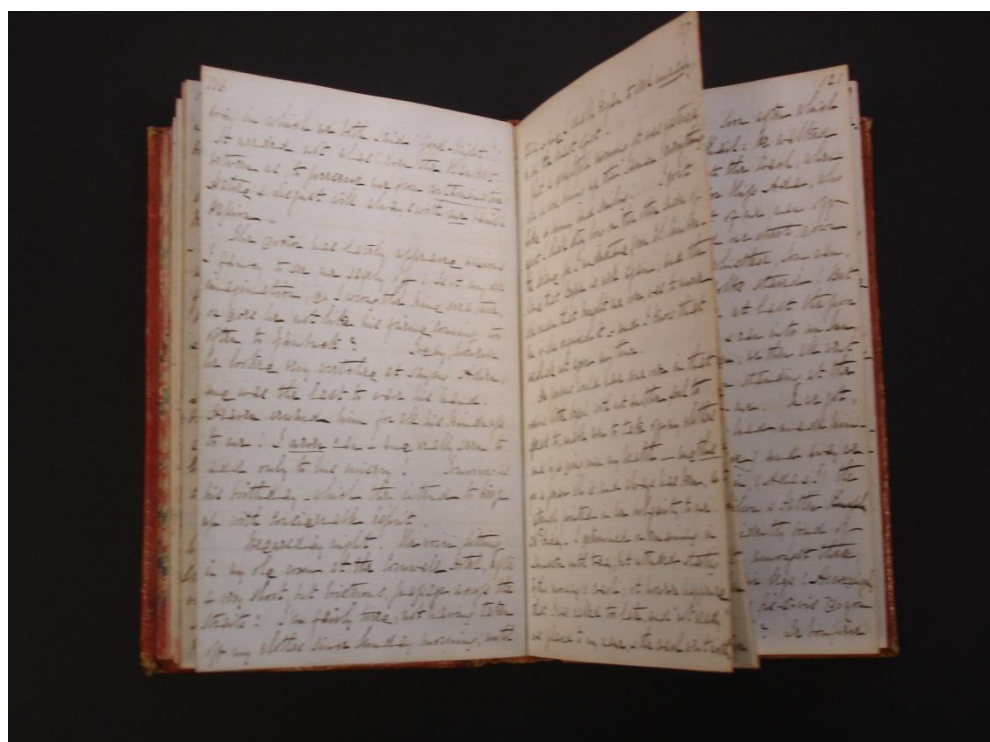


Figure 13: Sample journal pages Notebook 10: July 1848.

EDITORIAL PRINCIPLES

To enable the reader to reconstruct an understanding of the writing practice in the manuscript journal and to make clear the degree of editorial intervention in both the initial transcription and the later abridged text the following editorial practices are noted:

Abridged text

Spelling: Spelling has not been corrected and words are transcribed exactly as they appear in the journal notebooks. In the early journal the words “almost,” “always” and “altogether” are consistently spelt “allmost,” “allways” and “alltogether” respectively. In later notebooks the conventional spelling is adopted. In all of the transcribed notebooks “droll” and “stroll” are spelt “drole” and “strole.” Words ending in “our” such as “favour” and “honour” are spelt “favor” and “honor” in accordance with nineteenth-century practice. Similarly, “mosquito” and “ankle” are spelt in the nineteenth-century fashion as “musquitoe” and “ancle.” In the transcription these words and others which are used consistently, or those whose spellings are now obsolete but are in the *OED*, are not followed by [sic] to indicate misspelling. In the case of idiosyncratic and unusual misspellings the standard [sic] has been placed after the word. This is also the case for repeated words and phrases. This procedure is adopted to assure the reader that the transcribed text is accurate and reflects the author’s practice rather than an error introduced in the editorial process. Compound words such as “bedroom” and “somewhere,” which are represented as two words, are also reproduced exactly as they appear in the notebooks. Similarly, names of people and places are transcribed as they are written, and although attention is drawn to the error or misunderstanding, inconsistencies are allowed to stand.

Capitalisation: The transcription reproduces the erratic capitalisation characteristic of the manuscript. Annie commonly capitalises words mid-sentence for no apparent reason and frequently begins a new sentence with a lower-case letter. This practice has been followed as closely as possible in transcription. Where it is impossible to determine the author’s intention a

judgement has been made. (The lower-case and upper-case versions of “e”, “d” and “s” are particularly difficult to distinguish one from the other.)

Abbreviations: Abbreviations of words or names have not been expanded. All titles of address (standard and non-standard) and months of the year are left in their abbreviated form and reproduced in exactly the same way they appear in the manuscript. Superscripted letters in these words have not been brought to the baseline. Similarly, the occasional substitution of the suffix “ing” with a superscripted “g” remains unexpanded and the superscript stands.

Punctuation: Punctuation for the most part remains faithful to the manuscript. In the early journal sections either the dash, double dash (=) or swung dash (~) are used to signify the end of the sentence or a break in the continuity of the sentence. In each case the abridged text reproduces the manuscript version. Dashes in the text are reproduced as en-dashes. In the later journal colons and semi-colons largely replace the dash as a method of signalling breaks in sentence continuity. They are used interchangeably and often; as above, the transcription follows the manuscript as far as possible. However, where it is impossible to distinguish between marks on the page orthodox practice has been followed and the emendation made silently. In both versions of the text, the common nineteenth-century practice of repeated inverted commas at the beginning of every line of a quotation has been silently emended. Annie’s usual way to write the contraction of “do not” was “do’nt”; for this contraction and others like it, the abridged text follows Annie’s practice.

In the early journal Annie indicates parenthesis in either the standard way () or with a forward slash at each end of the relevant text. In the abridged reading text all parenthesis are represented in the standard way.

Format: Paragraphing in Annie’s Journal is irregular and unorthodox and, as Frost has identified, a new paragraph is signalled in any of three ways: slight indentation from the margin; a new sentence, with a change in subject matter, on a new line and flush with the left when the previous

sentence has ended well short of the right-hand side of the page; or a considerable gap and change of subject matter, but no change of line, before starting a new sentence (*Journal* lii). The method has been standardised in the abridged version of the journal and all new paragraphs within individual entries are indented from the margin.

Dates for individual entries are presented in italics and have been standardised as an aid to the reader to include the month and date for each entry. This departs from Annie's usual practice where the month was noted only for the first entry of a particular month. The day of the week is included in the abridged text only when it was present in the manuscript version; however an attempt has been made to supply the date in the month for each entry included in the abridgement. Dates added during the editing process are enclosed in square brackets. In the manuscript journal, the year is only recorded at the beginning or end of a calendar year or beginning or end of an individual notebook; the abridged text maintains this practice and while not all beginnings and ends of years or journals are presented in the abridged text, changes in the year are indicated where necessary.

French language has been transcribed as accurately as possible and translations of all French words appear in the footnotes. Annie's French grammar, sentence structure and spelling are non-standard. Editorial practice for translation in this thesis follows that of Elaine Crane in her 1994 edition of Elizabeth Drinker's diary: "No attempt has been made to standardize or correct any ... French phrases, and in many instances the English equivalents are merely approximations of what [was] probably meant" (xxiii).

Instances of hieroglyphic code, which Annie occasionally used in the early sections of her journal, have been deciphered. A footnote indicates their location in the text and provides a translation.

The names of all ships are italicised.

States of the text are represented in the following ways:

- An illegible word or group of words is indicated as [illegible word] and [illegible words] respectively;
- Words crossed out but still clearly decipherable are reproduced and struck through.
- Word or words which have been crossed out but which are indecipherable are indicated by [word under erasure] or [words under erasure];
- Underlined words in the manuscript are also underlined in the transcript (single or double underlining according to author's practice);
- Where a word or part of a word appears to have been omitted inadvertently and is required for syntactical sense it has been included in square brackets. Similarly, missing punctuation such as inverted commas and parenthesis which are required to complete a quotation or parenthesis respectively have been included in the same way. Where the omission appears to be deliberate (i.e. a space has been left in the journal text or only the first letter of a word is given) a pair of empty square brackets has been inserted;
- Superscripted words (i.e. those apparently added on rereading) are brought to the baseline and their original position noted in a footnote; and
- Ellipses are used to indicate where portions of entries have been deleted while ellipses in square brackets signal that an entire entry or group of entries had been expurgated.

The Transcription

The practice outlined above largely applies to the initial transcription however the following variations apply:

- Paragraphing has not been standardised. Paragraphs which begin on a new line or are indented are reproduced in accordance with Annie's practice and no attempt has been made to standardise these. However, gaps within a line have been omitted as there seemed no way in the transcription to clearly establish them as author's practice over editorial error.

- Those few instances where parentheses are indicated by a forward slash at each end of the relevant text are reproduced in the transcription.
- Page numbers are accurately reproduced and journal text can be identified according to notebook and page number. In the transcription, page numbers in square brackets signal the beginning of a journal page. Pagination follows exactly the sequence of the notebook – a repeat page number is indicated with an asterisk (*). In those instances where Annie has not recorded a page number they have been inserted and signalled in a footnote.
- Dates have not been standardised nor are they emphasised in any way; however, for clarity where Annie has not indicated a change in the month, the month has been inserted in square brackets with the first entry for that month – all other variations for signalling a new entry are retained.
- Superscripted words, apparently added on rereading, are indicated by a three point raise from the baseline.
- The names of ships mentioned are transcribed as they appear in the manuscript; they have not been standardised.

Although the primary principle of division for the transcript is the date and number of Annie's individual visits to Van Diemen's Land, the journal notebook from which the material is derived is clearly identified according to its number in the sequence. This methodology is intended to alert the reader to the journal's materiality and structure as a series of individual but linked notebooks. The notebooks are extensively described in Appendix A ("Description of Notebooks") of this thesis. This section gives a detailed description (following current bibliographic practice) of the notebooks as physical objects and includes material such as names and addresses and names written on endpapers and flyleaves but not strictly speaking part of the journal text, and not therefore included in the transcription. Annotations in the electronic transcription are limited to translation of French language and reportage of states of the text. In the abridged text, the primary principle of division remains the date and number of visit, and

although the beginnings and ends of individual notebooks are noted they are not signalled to the same extent that they are in the transcription. This decision reflects a primary intention to produce a reading text.

FIRST VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND 12 SEPTEMBER 1834 – 23 SEPTEMBER 1838

Introduction

When Annie left England in September 1834 she imagined that she would be away about six years and would visit several countries; after that she expected to return to family and friends in “dear old England” (7 Oct. 1834). Mistakenly she believed that she was bound for New South Wales, presumably to the regimental headquarters of the 50th Foot at Windsor. But that was not the case: her husband's detachment was ordered to Van Diemen's Land to relieve soldiers of the 21st Royal North British Fusiliers stationed in Launceston. The *Augusta Jessie* arrived in Hobart, the colony's administrative centre, in January 1835 after a non-stop voyage of 115 days from England. Three weeks later, Annie travelled 120 miles overland to Launceston in the colony's north where she was to spend almost four years before she sailed out of the Tamar for Sydney with her husband and his regiment.

As various scholars have noted, many women who left England in the nineteenth century did so with some reluctance. Penny Russell points out that the majority of women did not become colonists of their own volition, but rather because they had chosen to marry a particular man. For many, the experience of overseas travel involved a painful separation from loved family members, often with little prospect of seeing them again (*For Richer* 9). Annie, however, appeared largely undaunted by the prospect of life in a new land. On embarkation she declared the *Augusta Jessie* (at that time devoid of its human cargo) “a beautiful ship” and felt instantly “at home” (12 Sep. 1834). Indeed, a protracted absence in another country had some advantages for her, not least of which was the opportunity to repair the rift between herself and her family that marriage to Baxter had caused. As she later admitted, her marriage had been an act of “pique” (1 Jan. 1839) designed both to thwart her mother's plan for her to “marry a very old man with an immense fortune” (25 June 1837), and as retribution for the off-hand way in which she had been treated by the man to whom she had given her heart as a girl of thirteen (1 Jan. 1839). Aboard ship, seven months after her marriage, she had some doubts about the wisdom of her choice but

hoped that she “w[ould] be quite happy when [she] was alone with Baxter in N[ew] S[outh] Wales” (9 Oct. 1834).

In the colonial environment men and women had clearly defined and separate roles: while men could travel the empire with impunity, transforming and controlling its spaces, the role of women was more circumspect. They were required to support the endeavours of their male relatives, bear children, maintain households and form social alliances (Hall, “Of Gender” 47, Russell, *For Richer* 1-11). Alongside this role, British women, who were considered to “represent the highest levels of civilisation,” were expected to install a degree of civility in colonial space and perform a vital role as “teachers” to those “less well-positioned” (Wilson, “Empire” 21). Annie fulfilled this supportive and civilising position on the *Augusta Jessie* where she occupied a socially elevated position as the wife of the commanding officer of the military guard. Although she was very young and Baxter only a lieutenant, the enlisted men and their wives were expected to pay her the respect and deference normally afforded a more senior officer’s wife and she in turn was expected “to show a general interest in and solicitude for the welfare of the wives” (Trustringham 166-67). As the only female cabin passenger she received devoted attention from those men travelling as cabin passengers – the ship’s officers, her husband and his joint command, Lieutenant Weir and the ship’s doctor, James McTernan – and in turn lent a degree of civility to the captain’s table and the poop deck. It was a role she relished.

However, in Van Diemen’s Land opportunities for this kind of role were limited. Launceston was situated at the confluence of the North and South Esk Rivers, both of which discharged their waters into the Tamar River. In 1834 the settlement was reached by sea or a two-day overland journey from Hobart, during which it was necessary to ford the Elizabeth River at Campbell Town and travel by punt across larger rivers at Bridgewater and Perth. It was home to about 5,500 people, 2,000 of whom were convicts. A commercial and rural centre rather than an administrative one, Launceston lacked the infrastructure and society of Hobart, although it was undergoing a period of development. Augustus Prinsep, who visited Launceston in 1829, describes a settlement principally composed of “scattered wooden cottages” where public

buildings were limited to “large brick storehouses.” He comments that “what they call Government House [is] merely a large cottage situated in an excellent garden” (95-96). The female factory, gaol, courthouse and police offices, convict and military barracks and officers’ quarters were clustered in close proximity. Henry Button observes that a swamp existed outside the military barracks (136). Convicts were a visible presence as those assigned to work in the sawpit along the South Esk River walked daily through the town from the gaol in Bathurst St, while others gathered wattle bark from nearby Cataract Gorge and worked in brickfields centrally placed in the town (Dunning 78). There were few roads or pavements, the ground was marshy and straying beasts and ferocious dogs were common (Bethel 98-100, Robson 176).

Social life in the Launceston community was limited. Small gatherings were favoured over larger affairs, which were either non-existent or not patronised by the most influential members of the community. Indeed, a letter to the newly established *Cornwall Chronicle* proposing that a “respectable few ... [might] perhaps canvas the subject” of a “Subscription Ball or two” as a means “for uniting society” (13 June 1835) intimates that opportunities for polite socialising in the town were lacking. The exception was the annual race meeting held over three days at the beginning of March. Inaugurated in 1830 and organised by the colonial gentry, this event was patronised by all members of the community. Henry Dowling’s *Launceston Advertiser* of 17 March 1836 was scathing of the “noise, confusion, drunkenness, gambling [and] imprecations” this event engendered and condemned it as nothing more than a “pretext for the week’s licentious revelling as far as the working classes [were] concerned.” The paper urged “such of the gentry of the colony as are devoted to the Turf, to hold their meetings at a distance from the town.”¹

The colonial society in which Annie found herself had been constituted on a different basis to the hierarchical society based on birth, rank and precedence in which she had grown up. Colonial social groups, as Russell observes, were more fluid and uncertain than their British

¹ Henry Smythe’s 1835 plan of Launceston locates the racecourse on the outskirts of the town but within the town boundary. The proximity to the town reportedly caused considerable inconvenience and danger to citizens.

counterparts (*Wish* 1). Respectability, wealth and privilege in colonial society were less likely to have been inherited as it traditionally was in England and more likely to be the result of successful colonial endeavour. Those who established themselves as the leading citizens of Launceston were men from diverse and non-traditional backgrounds. While successful and prominent men such as William Lawrence and James Cox came from backgrounds traditionally associated (in an English system) with wealth, privilege and respectability, the pedigrees of some other leading men of Launceston were less conventional. Richard Dry Senior was a political dissident, transported for life in 1797. He was appointed storekeeper at Port Dalrymple in 1807 and in 1809 received a pardon following his marriage to Ann Maugham, a free woman. He became a significant landowner – by 1827 he held 12,000 acres mostly gained by purchase – and was an active member of the Port Dalrymple and Foreign Bible Society and a founding member of the Cornwall Bank (*ADB*). At the time of his death in 1843 he held land in excess of 30,000 acres (Baker 43). Thomas Archer, son of a Hertfordshire miller (Chick 16), arrived in the Australian colonies in 1811 and was appointed clerk in charge of the commissariat in Launceston in 1813. In 1816 he married fifteen-year-old Susannah Hortle, the daughter of James Hortle, a former private in the New South Wales Corps (Morison 50). Archer retired from government service in 1821 to manage his considerable estates, largely accrued through the generous system of land grants which existed in Van Diemen's Land during the administrations of lieutenant-governors William Sorrel and George Arthur. He was appointed by Arthur as a non-official member of the Legislative Council in 1826 and continued to serve in that capacity until he was forced to resign due to ill health in 1845.

Many of the north's prominent citizens built fine homes where they emulated the lifestyle of the English gentry facilitated by money from wool and trade and the availability of convict labour. Their children were sometimes educated in England or at establishments in Van Diemen's Land modelled on English public schools. At Clarendon, James Cox established a substantial property for his large family, while at Woolmers in 1816 Thomas Archer built a comfortable home which was extended in 1830s. His brother Joseph Archer arrived in the colony in 1821 and

was granted land adjoining Thomas' property. Like Thomas, he was successful and in the early 1830s built an elegant Italianate mansion at his property Panshanger, which many regard as "the finest rural residence in Tasmania" (of its time and since) (Chick 112).

Initially Launceston presented an unfamiliar environment to which Annie did not, or could not, adapt. Here her role reverted to being nothing more than the young wife of a junior officer. Her opportunities for creating a home were limited, in the sense that she lived in rented accommodation. On the voyage, Annie's doubts about the wisdom of her marriage had been gradually assuaged but in Launceston the close attentions of her husband that she had enjoyed on the *Augusta Jessie* were no longer forthcoming now that Baxter was occupied by the demands of the garrison and the homosocial leisure culture of the British military. Annie's subsequent loneliness is reflected in the short record she kept for her first year in the colony.

This section of the journal chronicles a confusing, complex, challenging and ultimately disappointing period of Annie's life. In September 1834, when she began writing her journal, she was a young woman who was generally optimistic about her future. But Annie's experiences diverged greatly from her expectations. The domestic happiness she had hoped for on the *Augusta Jessie* largely eluded her in Launceston. Her marriage failed to develop into a supportive and affectionate relationship and eventually deteriorated to one of hostility. Initially she experienced loneliness and a degree of social isolation, but this was ameliorated to a degree after she was included in the social world of Launceston's colonial elite. However, she was censured and eventually ostracised by this group when her romantic involvement with Richard Dry, the elder son of the prosperous settler and former convict Richard Dry and his wife Anne, offended and threatened members of this group. Her experience was such that by the time she left the colony in 1838 she was pleased to go. Although Annie enjoyed periods of happiness and contentment, she largely encountered difficulty, uncertainty and disappointment. Nevertheless, within this fraught social and personal context she was able to maintain a sense of herself and her subjectivity in her journal writing.

The Journal Record 12 September 1834 – 23 September 1838

The record of Annie's voyage to Van Diemen's Land and subsequent sojourn in the colony with her husband's regiment runs to 26,000 words and occupies 177 pages of her first notebook. Annie began her journal the day after embarkation on the *Augusta Jessie*. She wrote every day during the 3½-month voyage and filled twenty-eight pages of her journal. But her first years in the colony are documented less assiduously. On 15 February 1835, a week after she arrived in Launceston, regular entries ceased and from this time until the end of the year she filled only a further six pages of her journal. In 1836 she recorded her full year's experiences in just twelve pages. The following year she wrote slightly more, but only managed to fill twenty-four pages. However, in 1838 she filled almost one hundred pages from the beginning of January until her departure from the island towards the end of September. During this four-year period Annie's journal expanded and changed its function. It began as a simple record of activity and experience, but as Annie's life became more complex and difficult it became valuable as a confidant; thoughts which could not be shared with others were confided to the journal. In Annie's final year in the colony, when she faced censure and ostracism, it functioned as a vehicle for self-justification, self-assertion and self-admiration.

The record that Annie made on the voyage to Australia shares some similarities – in both style and form – with the emigrant records that are the subject of Andrew Hassam's *Sailing to Australia: Shipboard Diaries by Nineteenth-Century British Emigrants* (1995). Hassam observes a wide variation in the kinds of record people made – while some wrote on scraps of paper, others constructed elaborate records which included a table of contents and could even be indexed (23). He argues that an attempt to present a diary as a book reflects a desire to give it an appropriately durable form. Annie had chosen a notebook of 140 leaves; it was covered with marbled paper and its spine and corners were bound with faux-leather and decoratively tooled. Its endpapers and edges were likewise marbled and its white pages were very feintly lined. At just over four thousand words, her shipboard journal is shorter than most. Hassam observes that the shortest are around five thousand words while lengthier diaries exceed twenty thousand words and can run to

two or three hundred pages (21). But the brevity of the record may have been strategic in the sense that she intended her notebook to form a one-volume chronicle of an overseas sojourn, which, after her husband's garrison duty in the Australian colonies, was likely to include India before a return to England. Certainly, the material characteristics of the notebook together with the use of the collective pronoun "we" at the beginning of the diary suggest that she desired to create a durable record of her family's experience.

Annie's daily entries for the voyage are short and fragmentary, often just one or two phrases, although occasionally longer entries of two or three sentences occur. The prose, like that of many shipboard journals, is paratactically organised as a series of loosely associated or unrelated clauses punctuated by a dash (Hassam 89). Although her journal is brief and lacks the detail of other voyage accounts, it forms a comprehensive and accessible account of her voyage experience. Hassam argues that shipboard accounts take as their literary models the nautical log and popular published accounts of voyages and travels (79). These genres are predominantly descriptive and focused on information which can be geographical, navigational or scientific. In such narratives the prose is objective and the narrator a self-effacing reporter of events rather than an active participant in the drama of the narrative (78). Annie's early journal is typical of voyage accounts in that it is characterised by a straightforward delivery of information about the weather, geographical position, and the sea creatures and birds which were encountered, but it is unusual in that she, as the narrator, is present in many entries as the central protagonist.

Hassam contends that shipboard diarists were generally reluctant autobiographers and they did not usually include introspective details in their voyage records (89). Annie, however, does record her thoughts, feelings, hopes and desires. Her daily entries reflect her elevated social position on the convict transport and the growing pleasure she derived from the support and attention from Baxter who, without the usual distractions of the officer's mess, had time to devote to his new wife. In the shipboard journal her language departs from the literal only to express her growing intimacy with her husband. Initially she refers to Baxter simply by his family name, but as the voyage progresses he becomes "my child" or "my boy" or more suggestively a "wicked

Boy.” Harriet Blodgett indicates that nineteenth-century diarists were traditionally reticent in speaking about their bodies and rarely, if ever, wrote candidly about sexual relationships (42). In this respect the metaphor Annie chooses maintains propriety while at the same time – because the relationship between a mother and her small son can legitimately be close and physical – it communicates indulgence, intimacy, pleasure and familiarity.

However, the journal sections written during Annie’s first year in Launceston provide only limited access to her world. While her entries remain short, they become sporadic and function only as a very minimal register of experience. The active and enthusiastic narrator of the shipboard entries is replaced by another, who is altogether more passive. Annie appears detached from her environment in that she occasionally mentions a dinner engagement or a dance, but she offers no description of events or her part in the proceedings. The humour and narrative flair that had occasionally come to the fore in the shipboard account are missing. Whereas on board Annie had been a protagonist in her narrative, she now occupies the role of observer, reporting the activities of others. Reading the journal in a conventional way (as literal text and reportage) uncovers little of what is happening in Annie’s world. In order to understand Annie’s experience, close and attentive reading practices such as those advocated by scholars such as Cynthia Huff, Suzanne Bunkers and Philippe Lejeune are required to appreciate the full despair of Annie’s first year in Launceston: her failure to adapt to colonial life and the various personal difficulties she faced. Huff, Bunkers and Lejeune identify silence, allusion, innuendo, contradiction and repetition as strategies used by diarists to register indirectly what cannot be recorded in a straightforward way. Bunkers identifies the “selective use of speech and silence” as a “central strategy” in women’s diaries and makes the important observation that “what remained unsaid was every bit as important – and, in some cases more important than – what was said” (“Midwestern” 191). She associates silence with “such taboo subjects as sexuality, labour, childbirth and menstruation” as well as experiences that are painful, uncomfortable or disappointing (“Midwestern” 194). Lejeune cautions readers of manuscript diaries to be alert to subtle “variations in the use of set patterns” and to consider allusion, generalisations and “vague lyrical outbursts” as means by which female

diarists in the nineteenth century were able to express the unconventional or unacceptable (“Journal” 111). Huff advocates a reading practice, akin to “detective work,” that considers context, form and extra-textual elements as important for understanding a particular diary and “views repetition as a positive circumscription” indicative of a significant preoccupation rather than a distraction which hinders the narrative flow (“Reading” 511).

Significantly, in 1835 Annie hardly mentions Baxter in her diary. On the occasions his name appears, it is often to report his absence – either because he is kangaroo hunting or at the mess. On one occasion Annie commends his “dear good heart” (6 Oct. 1835) but then shortly after associates pain with marriage when she complains that “[b]ecause I am married people can’t imagine that I can have any pain in my heart” (1 Dec. 1835). Blodgett contends that a woman who is happy and satisfied with her marriage will write often and affectionately about her husband in her diary whereas in marriages which are less than close the husband is hardly mentioned (161, 165). In this respect, Baxter’s shadowy presence in Annie’s journal hints at discord and disappointment rather than a continuation of the intimacy and happiness experienced aboard the *Augusta Jessie*.

Lejeune argues that changes in pattern are often significant in women’s journals. In 1835, Annie’s pattern of short and fragmentary entries is disturbed by two longer ones, which Lucy Frost has suggested possibly record the two miscarriages Annie likely suffered that year. The first of these is in April when Annie makes the effort, after a period of silence, to write that as “nothing very very particularly interesting occurs here I do not so often trouble my Journal” (20 Apr. 1835). This comment prefaces her record of the “melancholy” incident of the tragic sinking of the *George III*, which in this case possibly provides a distraction for her to write about her loss. Frost rightly concludes that “‘very,’ repeated and underlined, calls attention to something missing, [and] unsaid” (*Face* 3). The second such incident is recorded on 22 August 1835 when Annie wrote that she “had a very slight Mishap – But why! in the name of the Prophet trouble these pages with such trifles!” The capitalisation of mishap, a word associated with miscarriage (*Face* 3), points to its importance and amplifies its potential meaning. The inclusion of two exclamation

marks – one of them mid-sentence – when they have been used very sparingly before, also draws attention to the entry and suggests emotional disturbance and upset. This interpretation is only available retrospectively following Annie’s admission, in an undated entry for July 1843, that she suffered four “miscarriages.” The first of these occurred after Annie “over fatigued herself at a Rochester Ball” (16 Dec. 1843), while the fourth probably occurred in January 1839 after she had arrived in Sydney. In context, it seems likely the other two occurred in 1835 before relations between the couple deteriorated to a point of open hostility.

In the journal for 1835, Annie’s disappointment in her immediate colonial environment is indicated by her focus on recording ship arrivals and departures and the letters sent or received to friends and family elsewhere. This preoccupation suggests that Annie’s emotional investment in traditional familial and national affiliations was still very strong. Her disenchantment with colonial experience and her surroundings is communicated in the concluding entry for 1835 in which she complains that the weather was “rather too hot,” and laments that she was far from “[d]ear old England” which she misses “more every hour.” She completes this entry with the opinion that it was “impossible to ever be quite reconciled to this Country” (26 Dec. 1835).

In the journal record for 1836, entries remain short and irregular but Annie begins to represent herself more positively as a colonial actor. She continues an interest in recording letters received and despatched but her prose suggests growing emotional investment and interest in the local community. The names of local personalities once mentioned without qualification attract expressions of endearment. William and Ann Lyttleton, parents of Maria Davies, are variously referred to as “my dear friends,” “my truly delightful friends” and “good friends” (25 Jan., 8 Feb. and 10 Feb. 1836). Similarly, she was interested enough in her surroundings to include commentary about local events. She reports with enthusiasm a “delightful Ball at the Government Cottage” at which the company “was very mixed” and the “prettiest woman in the room . . . had not a morsel of style about her” (3 Mar. 1836). And although entries such as “I feel very dull lately – and cannot tell Why” (29 Apr. 1836) hint at tension between her and Baxter, overall her journal records a period of relative domestic bliss.

The function of the journal changes after Annie's relationship with Dry begins to assume greater significance for her. From this point – unable to speak directly to her friends about her dissatisfaction in marriage or her relationship with Dry – the journal becomes important as a confidant: a place where the feelings Annie harbours could be expressed. The journal becomes the friend to whom she would come “to enumerate all [her] grievances” and “share the secrets of [her] heart” (10 July 1837). Entries remain irregular but become more expansive, confused and complex. In June, Annie rhetorically addresses a reader for the first time – “Reader? Are you? (1 June 1837) – perhaps anticipating that the diary would one day be given to Dry. From this point reflective entries are included more frequently and through allusion and association it gradually becomes apparent that Dry was the object of her interest. The ordered prose of the journal is disrupted by passages of French and hieroglyphic code as Annie takes steps to protect her privacy, particularly from her husband who, lacking her education, was unable to read French. Annie includes footnotes and constructs phrases using only the first letters of a word. In other attempts to protect her privacy she resorts to vigorously crossing out sections already written to make them indecipherable and removing whole pages – two of the pages are carefully (and deliberately) cut out. Annie's characteristic short entries are sometimes replaced by ones that extend over pages. The literary repertoire of the journal is further expanded when a third-person narrative is deployed to explain the ill-advised marriage that has brought her to her current predicament: “when being told she should marry a very old man – she preferred running into the extreme & married a young one with no fortune – 4 years have passed – she is abroad I think” (25 June 1837). This narration is a kind of self-objectification in which Annie fashions herself as a romantic heroine – a victim of circumstance – who should be sympathetically regarded rather than criticised.

Between January and September 1838, Annie wrote more regularly and filled ninety-six pages of her Journal, which she now kept safely in a tin box under lock and key. The writing from this point – perhaps reflecting the security that the tin box provided – is more expressive and passionate. Becoming less circumspect, she openly criticises Baxter and freely admits her love for Dry. However, not all the entries she makes from this point are secretive, reflective or

introspective. As a register of experience the journal becomes less minimalist (perhaps a direct reflection of a paucity of suitable material to record which no doubt inhibited earlier writing) and reflects both the more complicated nature of her personal life and involvement in the community of which she had become a part. She continues to include reportage of daily activities – the pattern of her days, places visited, the guests received and the books she read – albeit in a more extensive fashion than that which was characteristic of her early journal writing. Annie develops a chattier and more discursive writing style such as one might use when addressing a friend and is more committed to maintaining the journal as a record. By the end of this four-year period the journal has the basic narrative form it would continue to have for its duration. In time the characteristic dashes disappear and punctuation becomes more conventional.

Women have always used dairies as vehicles for self-validation and self-assertion. In *She Left Nothing in Particular: the Autobiographical Legacy of Nineteenth-Century Women's Diaries* (2001), Amy Wink explores at length the ways in which nineteenth-century women have used diary writing to assert agency and “confront and resist environmental and social constraint” (xvi), while acknowledging that the diary is important for self-revelation and as a valued form of autobiography “valorizing the private voices of ordinary women” (xii) She argues that writing is “not simply a reaction to [women’s] silencing but an action and a moment of agency despite the culture that encourages their passivity” (xxiv). On more than one occasion, Annie uses her journal to defend her sometimes unconventional and flamboyant actions. While she may not be able to mount an effective public defence of her actions, she does so for posterity in the pages of her journal. Her diary, which functions initially as a travelogue and confidant, eventually becomes crucial as a place to vent her anger and preserve a sense of self in the face of adversity. In January 1838, criticism that she is a “flirt” fails to subdue Annie, who defiantly asserts that she is a “soldier” who will “not shun a danger” and will “argue a little” rather than “Fly” (29 Jan. 1838). Objectified by her peers, Annie chooses an alternative, if unconventional, subjectivity rather than seek re-inscription within the bounds of respectable femininity.

Although this section of Annie's journal is brief and lacking in descriptive or documentary detail, it is nevertheless an important personal, cultural and social document. As a chronicle of the social world of an elite colonial group it is informative about leisure activities and the social interaction of this group. In her journal Annie draws a picture that accords with Kirsten McKenzie's description of elite colonial society as a "close-knit circle, bound together by kinship, intermarriage, commercial contacts and political allegiance" (10). Annie's conduct was challenging and demonstrates that, like the elite of other colonial societies, Launceston society was anxious to assert its moral authority and regarded strangers as potentially threatening. She was admonished by matriarch Susan Archer for setting a "bad example to young person in [the] Colony" (20 July 1838) and accused by her young friend Jane Youl of "taking away the young ladies beaux" (25 Feb. 1838). And perhaps Annie's involvement with Dry – one of the most eligible men in the colony – precluded him from forming a legitimate liaison with a woman from one of the other settler families. The journal makes explicit a recognised system of double standards insofar as the full brunt of censure is directed at Annie while Dry suffers no disadvantage. Similarly, the record exposes a level of social organisation that causes Annie to be ostracised by several members of the community, including the Misses Dry and Youl who actively "cut" her. Annie offers a unique perspective on this group as she is both inside and outside – initially a stranger, she is eventually welcomed but again marginalised when she challenges its authority and threatened instability. Significantly, and rather incongruously, when censured she is loathe to criticise individuals such as Susan Archer, whom she has come to respect.

This section of the journal is also significant as a chronicle of the difficulties and uncertainty of military life. Annie first mentions a possible departure from the colony in January 1838 and regularly after that, but it was not until September that a definite order to regroup in Sydney was received. The uncertainty this engenders is to the say the least unsettling and as Frost has speculated may in some part explain Dry's apparent ardour towards Annie in late 1837 and

early 1838, when he believed that the regiment would soon depart, and his subsequent lack of interest when they remained (*Face* 9).

In colonial society women of Annie's social status were traditionally represented and lauded for their supportive role as wives and mothers. Annie's journal record complicates and counters this stereotypical presentation of women; it provides rare insight into a difficult and unhappy nineteenth-century marriage and is informative about available options for women of Annie's class when marriage fails. While working-class women might simply choose to leave a failed marriage and aristocratic women could afford a divorce (or were able to engineer the circumstances to obtain one), women of Annie's social status were limited in the options they could pursue if they wished to remain a respected and accepted member of polite society. While Annie considered remaining in Van Diemen's Land, she knew that to do so would result in social, financial and perhaps personal ruin.

As a personal document or form of autobiography this section of Annie's journal traces an individual trajectory from innocence to experience. When Annie began writing her journal she expected happiness and was excited about her future. Although young, as an English woman of genteel birth and the wife of a British army officer she embraced British attitudes and beliefs about colonial society. While doubting the wisdom of her marriage she was confident of her position within the social hierarchy. Once her expectations of future happiness were frustrated by the experiences of her marriage and involvement with Dry, her sense of social and cultural superiority, although challenged, was not destroyed. When she was socially "cut" by Miss Dry and James Youl's sisters she is spirited in condemnation of their "purse-pride" and dismissive of their "Plebeian blood" (8 Sep. 1838). She has little hesitation in dismissing the young colonial women who had been her friends. While this is perhaps a necessary action of self-assertion and self-preservation, it betrays Annie as someone who, at this point, ultimately subscribes to the values of a parent society which was generally disparaging and dismissive of colonial Europeans "as *parvenus*, cultural incompetents, morally suspect, and indeed 'fictive' Europeans, somehow distinct from the real thing" (Stoler 102).

In the pages of her journal, Annie reveals a subjectivity which is at once haughty, proud, and vain but also demonstrates an admirable passion, pragmatism and resilience, all of which equip her to negotiate an unconventional path in this particular colonial environment. Significantly, Annie refused to be contained within the narrow paradigm of respectable colonial femininity.

Journal 12 September 1834 – 23 September 1838

Annie Maria Baxter's Journal

"Augusta Jessie"

September 12th 1834

September 12th 1834 – We yesterday embarked on Board the *Augusta Jessie*¹ – Convict ship bound for New South Wales – She is a very beautiful ship – I feel more at home here than I thought I ever should on any vessel – My Uncle,² John and Archibald Douglas³ came to see us – We sail today I believe in the afternoon –

September 13th Today we came from Deptford to about ½ a mile past Gravesend⁴ – A lovely day – The Doctor's wife (M^{rs} M^cTurnan)⁵ is on Board – She is a very pleasant woman – In the Evening the Doctor & Baxter played at Backgammon together – I worked – [...]

September 18th A sultry day – M^r Edinborough,⁶ D^r M^cTurnan, Baxter, M^{rs} M^cTurnan and myself went to Deal⁷ – A little dirty Place – We are past Dungeness⁸ & are going on very pleasantly indeed – I wrote to dear Harriet⁹ this evening – Tomorrow is her Birthday –

¹ A 380-ton barque, built at Sunderland early in 1834 and making its maiden voyage as a convict transport after being fitted out at the naval dockyards at Deptford, on the south bank of the Thames and in close proximity to Chatham military barracks where the 50th (Queen's Own) Regiment of Foot (hereafter the 50th Foot) had been quartered prior to its departure for the Australian colonies. The *Augusta Jessie* (hereafter *AJ*) was commanded by Henry Edinborough and the surgeon-superintendent was James McTernan, already a veteran of several voyages on convict transports. Prior to this voyage, McTernan had sailed to Hobart Town on the *Sir Charles Forbes* (1827), *York I* (1832) and to Sydney aboard the *Ocean II* (1823), *Eliza II* (1829) and the *Lady Hardwood* (1831). (See Appendices I&II, Bateson 338-371.) He sailed on the *Sarah* to Hobart Town in 1837 and on the *John Barry* to Sydney in 1836. In 1823, on his first voyage to the antipodes aboard the *Ocean*, McTernan had successfully dealt with a prisoner uprising (Bateson 218).

² James Murray Hadden (q.v.).

³ Brothers of Cressy Douglas, a school friend of Annie Baxter (hereafter AB). AB was very fond of this family, especially their mother whom she regarded as a mother figure. When she returned to England in 1851 she visited the family at Ryde for an extended period.

⁴ On the right bank of the Thames, downstream from London, traditional centre for English customs' collection.

⁵ Harriet McTernan did not accompany her husband on the voyage. Presumably she disembarked at Portsmouth.

⁶ The last part of this name has been crossed out, the spelling apparently corrected and inserted above. Edinborough made several voyages to the Australian colonies between 1833 and 1837. In 1840 he settled on the pastoral property, Wollogorang, near Goulbourn in New South Wales (hereafter NSW).

⁷ Town in Kent, once a significant mercantile centre, but popular in the 19th century as a coastal holiday resort.

⁸ A promontory on the south coast of Kent which projects into the English Channel.

⁹ Harriet Woodward (q.v.), sister of AB.

September 19th ... – A beautiful Breeze¹⁰ springing up in the evening – I am not very well – The Pilot thinks we shall be in Portsmouth¹¹ tomorrow – I wrote to M^{rs} Briggs¹² on the 17th from Deal –

September 20th Arrived at Spithead¹³ at two o'clock in the afternoon – D^r & M^{rs} M^cTernan, M^r Weir¹⁴ and the Captain all went ashore – I wrote to my Uncle immediately – [...]

September 23rd All on shore but myself and little Husband –

September 24th M^r & M^{rs} M^cTernan & I went into Portsmouth in the morning – Saw the Guard mounting¹⁵ – Convicts were coming on Board when we came from shore – I sent my picture to Harriet today –

September 25th No one went ashore today except M^r Weir in the evening – I am not among the class of happy mortals – Nor shall I be so again until I return to my native land – My beautiful workbox is missing – I sincerely trust it is not lost – [...]

September 27th We have been at Spithead a week today – Harriet wrote me a most affectionate letter – A lovely day – [...]

September 29th A lovely day – I am very sick –

September 30th In the Bay of Biscay¹⁶ –

October the 1st Still in the Bay – & literally so, as [illegible word] we are becalmed – Still sick –

October 2nd Quite calm and I am so likewise – We have beautiful weather –

October 3rd Still in the Bay of Biscayos! We have a M^r Moss¹⁷ on Board with us – he is a Jew – Poor fellow he leads a sad life – To think that the Christian religion should be so abused as to

¹⁰ Superscript in original.

¹¹ Sheltered port on the southern coast of England. Convicts were embarked onto transports at Portsmouth, Plymouth or Woolwich in England, and Cork in Ireland from nearby gaols or prison hulks (Hughes 138, Bateson 55).

¹² Hannah Briggs (1808-1837), sister of Andrew Baxter, wife of William Briggs (q.v.).

¹³ The extensive, deep and sheltered channel between the north-eastern shore of the Isle of Wight and the mainland of England. On the western side a channel leads into Portsmouth Harbour.

¹⁴ Lieutenant James Weir (50th Foot).

¹⁵ Ceremony in which the military guard at important institutions is changed, now commonly known as the “changing of the guard.” AB possibly observed this ceremony at Southsea Castle, Portsmouth.

¹⁶ A wide inlet of the Atlantic Ocean bounded by south-western France and north-western Spain, renowned for its treacherous waters; sea-sickness is commonly reported in voyage accounts.

¹⁷ Not listed on passenger list, possibly a ship’s officer. AB later met him in Hobart Town where he was “married, and doing very well as [a] Clerk in some Government Office” (9 Jan. 1845).

scoff at, ~~a person~~ rather than tolerate a person of any other – The time will be when we shall see our folly – May our God who looks at & protects the Jews equally with the Gentile pardon our frailties – I am delighted poor M^{rs} Thornbury¹⁸ is getting so very much better – We are nearing the Cape – where my beloved William¹⁹ is – I only trust he is as happy as I wish him & he is then among the happiest of mortals – ...

October 5th The Doctor read prayers to the Convicts – Nothing else occurred particular –

October 6th I am reading the memoirs of the Empress Josephine²⁰ – Fine weather –

October 7th This day year, my darling William was married & today, I believe my Hal is to enlist in the Corps of “Matrimonials” – If my prayers be heard she will be very happy in them – “Je ne me porte pas tres bien”²¹ – How truly delightful in six years it will be to come & lay my bones in my dear Old England – I feel convinced a longer life will not be mine – [...]

October 9th A fine day – ... – I have just been on deck, walking by moonlight – It has given me the Blues! I suppose I must be a very very discontented person, for I am miserable with a good man, who says that he loves me,²² and with friends whom I have vanity enough to fancy will miss me from their circle – Today an accident was very near taking place with the Gunpowder²³ – I am sure I shall be quite happy when I am alone with Baxter in N. S. Wales – at least I propose the same in advance –

October 10th This morning the *Elizabeth* Whale Boat passed us & the captains held a short parley – In the afternoon when we were all on deck, we saw two water spouts at a distance – One continued some time & was very beautiful – Today has been rather showery – I am now reading

¹⁸ Wife of Thomas Thornbury, an enlisted soldier of the 50th Foot. Unless otherwise specified, all persons named in the voyage record were soldiers of the 50th Foot or their wives. The names of women travelling with their husbands were not recorded and cannot be reproduced. Women – usually only five or six – were chosen by ballot to accompany their soldier husbands.

¹⁹ AB’s brother, William Charles Hadden (q.v.). In 1834 he was serving with the Royal Engineers in the Cape Colony, a British colony established in 1806, known as the Cape Province or province of Cape of Good Hope following the union of South Africa in 1910.

²⁰ Georgette Ducrest, *Memoirs of the Empress Josephine: with Anecdotes of the Courts of Navarre and Malmaison* (London: Henry Colburn, 1828).

²¹ “I don’t feel very well” (French).

²² The phrase “who says that he loves me” appears to be a replacement for other words. The faint outline of other words is suggested and the page is lighter, as if some words have been erased.

²³ Possibly a reference to an incident related in *Memories of the Past* (hereafter *Memories*) in which a bullet is fired by one of the “gentlemen ... practising firing with pistols” into the cuddy where she had been sitting moments before (4).

“Mary, Queen of Scots”²⁴ – Poor M^r Weir is not very well I think – I frequently now reproach myself with having been so constantly, (as I think) out of temper with dear Harriet & bring to mind her words “Well, Annie dear, we won’t quarrel as we may not allways be together” – How true those words were – I wish I could even hear her say that now – [...]

October 12th & 13th Nothing in particular, but old Quotil flogged²⁵ – What a pity that an Attaché of mine should misbehave himself so far – I feel very far from well – I am afraid my old complaint is returning – We are going on but slowly – [...]

October 20th A fair breeze – not quite so warm – A very imposing scene has just taken place – one of the Convicts died this evening & was buried immediately²⁶ – It is a solemn sight – Particularly when we think that we must all come to the same, one day or other – Were I prepared (I mean in a religious point of view) I should be quite reconciled to die young – All the troubles of this world are then passed & nothing but happiness in sight – [...]

October 22^[nd] Today is very fine – We saw some flying fish²⁷ – The Doctor, Captain & myself invented new alphabets – & M^r Moss made them out – I shall copy mine in the end of this book²⁸ – [...]

October 25th Becalmed – It is litterally boiling today – “There is not /in the words of Captⁿ Stonehouse/ a breath to govern the hatmosphere, nor a cloud to govern the sky”²⁹ – I have just had my Box playing – It reminds me of old Times – How silly girls are who leave friends & good ones too that love ~~you~~ them,³⁰ to marry persons who profess to love them, but who soon get tired of their society – A few weeks back, I was vain enough to imagine that I was really loved – but for the future I shall know how to trust to appearance – I think after what I have suffered one way

²⁴ Probably Henry Glassford Bell’s *Life of Mary Queen of Scots* published 1828 in Edinburgh. Bell’s was the most recent of a number of works about Mary Queen of Scots. His two volume work has a biographical rather than historical focus.

²⁵ Jean Baptiste Quattel, native of Dominica convicted in Dominica of theft on 31 Aug. 1830 and transported for life. The Surgeon’s report comments that he was “infamously bad [and] punished on board.” After arrival in VDL, “being a most violent tempered man,” he was sent to Port Arthur (Con 301/1/37, Archives Office of Tasmania [hereafter AOT]).

²⁶ Identified only as Joseph H. in the *AJ Conduct Book* (Con CSO 1/ 781/ 16664, AOT).

²⁷ Any of various tropical fish of the family *Exocoetidae* capable of gliding considerable distances above the water by means of winglike pectoral fins.

²⁸ This was not the case; no alphabet was recorded.

²⁹ Not identified, either as a person known to AB or a literary figure.

³⁰ “Them” has been written as superscript above “you” which has been crossed out.

& the other for my husband, the least return (& the only one I ask for) he could make, would be to love me. There was a Shark caught today – The Doctor shot it very well – [...]

October 28th ... In the course of the morning we observed a vessel coming towards us – It proved to be an English Brig – We spoke to her – & the Captain & Baxter went on Board her with letters from all of us – I felt as happy as if I were almost going to old England – [...]

November 3rd ... My left ankle has been inflam'd for four days – I wrote to Hal, Toby,³¹ & Mother Reid³² – [...]

November 8th Today, I have been married nine months – A fine day – [...]

November 10th Today we crossed the line³³ – a fine Breeze all day – I broke the little looking Glass – There is seven years misfortunes for me³⁴ – [...]

November 11th Today Neptune paid us a visit³⁵ – A fresh Breeze all today – [...]

November 14th A pleasant breeze this morning – a little wet in the early part of the morning = On the 10th M^{rs} Wade³⁶ was confined with a young lady – It was very remiss in me to forget placing such an event in my journal on the proper day – However it's a way we military people have sometimes³⁷ – [...]

³¹ Later referred to as “my beloved Uncle Toby” (12 May 1835), perhaps a relative from her mother's side or a close family friend (see also 5 Oct. 1835 and 1 June 1836).

³² Mother of Eliza, a school friend of AB (see 9 Jan. 1838). Mrs Reid, like Mrs Douglas, was a mother figure for AB.

³³ Nautical term for sailing across the equator.

³⁴ A persistent superstition, deriving from widespread belief that what a person saw when they looked in a mirror was not a simple reflection but “a visible representation of the soul, which was temporarily divorced from the body. Such reflections could be asked questions about the future and if they trembled or broke up the prognosis was generally bad” (Pickering 171).

³⁵ A nautical tradition associated with crossing the equator, where a seaman dressed as Neptune, the Roman god of the sea, visits the ship. Those who have not previously crossed the line are summoned to the “court” of Neptune for trial. This summons was often followed by a ritual dunking in a tub of sea water. Initiates were sometimes lathered with “soap and gunk” and roughly shaved (Hughes 154).

³⁶ Mrs George Wade.

³⁷ Like AB, Maria Nugent, wife of George Nugent, appointed Lt.-Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Jamaica in 1801, identifies herself as a military person in her journal of her Jamaican sojourn: “but *we* are soldiers, and must have no will of our own” (2).

November 20th A dull morning – on the 18th we were exactly under the Sun³⁸ – The Doctor said I was a creature that day without any shadow – I hope he didn't mean without reflection likewise³⁹ –

November 21st Today our latitude is 23° 40'S – We saw five Albatross's, a very uncommon thing in this latitude – & almost equally so, a heavy Gale of wind – One or two uncommon ludicrous events took place during the squall – Some inexperienced “shore-going” people were sitting on the weather gang-way & par consequence got a little more water to wash their faces, than is generally allowed on Board a ship – A little Convict Boy, who had not considered “the perils & dangers of the deep” before he stole – was in the greatest possible fright – thinking – no doubt, all was over with him – (as the water was!) [...]

November 24th My birthday – I am eighteen – The Ships both “en avant”⁴⁰ – A lovely day – “Baxter is a wicked Boy” – [...]

November 28th This day month my letters went to dear England – Last night I had a most delightful dream – I had been out in N. S. Wales – 6 years – & had just returned to my own dear old Country – I ought not to wish my lot, different from what it is, but certain I am that I shall not regret going home again – The Captain & I had a quarrel –

November 29th My little spouse⁴¹ took my part last night, like a hero – Fine day – Baxter caught a fine Dolphin the day before yesterday & did not keep it – [...]

December 4th A fair Breeze – several whales & Birds about – We are one thousand miles from Land – My darling is reading “Goldsmith's History of England”⁴² out loud to me while I work –

December 5th – I don't remember any time in my life that I was happier than I am now – Reading “Gallery of Portraits”⁴³ –

³⁸ The point on the planet where the sun is exactly overhead, called the geographical position. The point where this occurs is moving over the earth from east to west at one minute every four seconds. It also moves very slowly from north to south, taking a year to go from the Tropic of Capricorn to the Tropic of Cancer and back again. The equator is crossed twice. The *Nautical Almanac* published annually since 1767 lists minute by minute the geographical position of the sun.

³⁹ Superstitious persons believed that the absence of a shadow or reflection was a bad omen portending harm or death for the person concerned.

⁴⁰ In front of [us] (French).

⁴¹ A word has been erased and replaced with “spouse.”

⁴² Oliver Goldsmith, *History of England from the Earliest Times to the Death of George II* (Dublin: Sleater and Chamberlain, 1789).

December 6th I feel it very cold – one of the poor convicts is mad – God help him – it the most shocking calamity to be deprived of reason –

December 7th My old man is of age today – A Dutch ship close – [...]

December 9th This morning an Albatross was caught larger than the other two – M^r Moss was very busy preserving the skins – The Down on them is beautiful – I made a pem [?] with “Albatross” on it – Saw whales yesterday & today – The Doctor has preserved a claw which I am going to make into a ~~reticule~~ Bag⁴⁴ – [...]

December 16th Calm – No Birds about – I am so very very happy – My little Boy quite well –

December 17th Both my child & myself have colds – Today he (meaning my boy) caught an Albatross and then somehow let it go –

December 18th Fine day & strong Breeze – I should like to know how my old Friends in England are – God Bless them all – We have pass’d the Cape, where my darling is – & expect to see St Pauls⁴⁵ on the 1st of January

December 19th Yesterday there were several whales about & numbers of Albatrosses – Today one of the Convicts died – A fine young man⁴⁶ – I am teaching my Boy to play at Piquet⁴⁷ – We think of seeing Hobart Town on the 26th of January – Quotil flogged again today – Unfortunate old sinner that he is! –

December 20th Fine day – Rained a little in the evening – My child’s cold rather better – I love that sweet girl “Annie” better than ever, she is truly a darling!!” Says Baxter! Tomorrow Sunday – (Deceit!)⁴⁸

⁴³ Thomas Arthur Makin, *Gallery of Portraits*, 7 vols (London: Knight, 1833-1837).

⁴⁴ Albatross were caught with a triangular “hook,” baited with waste meat and streamed astern. As the bird tried to retrieve the meat, the hook of its beak would catch in the triangle. Two sailors gradually drew the bird in. The leg bones were used as pipe stems, its skull cavity for a snuff box, the webbing of its feet for tobacco pouches and the breast feathers for a lady’s muff (Charlwood 151). Presumably AB had made a muff and intended to make a pouch.

⁴⁵ St Paul Island (Île St Paul) in the southern Indian Ocean, 37°50’ South and 77°35’ East, approx 6km². The Island is approximately halfway between South Africa and Australia and more than 3000 km from any continent.

⁴⁶ William Roberts convicted in York West Riding on 9 July 1834 and transported for stealing from the parson (CON31/1/37, AOT).

⁴⁷ A card-game for two people, played with a pack of 32 cards (cards from two to six are excluded).

⁴⁸ “Deceit” is written in a slightly different ink and is presumably a later addition.

December 21st A heavy squall in the evening – one of a different nature took place down below in the Barracks – Mistress Hicky & her spouse,⁴⁹ had a fight of course it was a sea-fight! – Oh! these little Domestic squalls! – [...]

December 25th Christmas Day – The convicts came last night to the Door & sung some Hymns, very nicely indeed ... God Bless all our friends in England – I dare say we are not forgotten by them – In the evening we had a fresh Breeze –

December 26th A gale of wind all last night & today – Poor little Andy had no sleep Last night on my account – The little Boy made up for it, tho' before dinner today – [...]

December 29th Calm today – My child caught an Albatross – 10 feet 6 inches from wing to wing⁵⁰ – The men fired today – McDougall hit the Bull's-eye – Baxter gave him 8/6 as a reward – they shot a Black fish⁵¹ – [...]

December 31st & last day in the year – It is my prayer to that God who has preserved me so long, to continue his great goodness to the person, whom I love more, & value more than myself – my belov'd husband – and that we may live long & happily together – My friends are no doubt thinking of us today – My love will follow them wherever they go – I must turn over a new leaf – ...

January 1st 1835 Thursday A very fine day & nice little Breeze – We are about [word under erasure] eighty miles from the island of St Paul's – God bless our friends in England & my darling at the Cape ... I am reading "A collection of Voyages & Travels"⁵² – [...]

January 4th Sunday We imagine that I shall (with the rest of our fellow passengers) see Van Dieman's Land in three weeks – Today (& I quite alarmed to relate it) I sat down to have a tooth out, but my courage failed me – & I came away with my tooth – Tomorrow I must set to work – Having several little things to finish previous to my landing – My little Boy quite well! – [...]

⁴⁹ Mr and Mrs Thomas Hickey.

⁵⁰ Emigrant voyage diaries frequently included a measurement of the wing-span of an albatross. Andrew Hassam comments that an emigrant voyage diary "could hardly consider itself authentic without recording the wing-span of an albatross" (80).

⁵¹ Pilot Whale (*Globicephala melas*).

⁵² Possibly William Mavor's *A Collection of Voyages and Travels from the Discovery of America to the Commencement of the Nineteenth Century*, 28 vols (London: Richard Phillips, 1810). However, a number of books have this, or a similar title.

January 11th Poor Wallace died at ½ past five this morning – he was buried at about ½ past two – M^r Weir read the service – I had my tooth out today – & a nice big one two [sic] [...]

January 13th Today my tin case came up & all my bonnets nearly smashed – I put my white one on [–] a beautiful shape – a fine breeze –

January 14th This day week they think we shall arrive in Hobart Town – We are all preparing for that grand event –

January 15th A delightful wind – Today M^{rs} Malcom & I packed up a few of the trapps – “The two Inseperables” – uncommon pleasant uncommon⁵³ –

January 16th A fine Breeze still continues – Baxter packed up the “Oak Chest – ... – M^{rs} Leviston confined with a little Boy⁵⁴ – [...]

January 22nd A fine Breeze – as we [were] sitting down to Luncheon the steward came to tell us, land was in sight – No one can imagine the joy I felt, except those who have felt it previously –

January 23rd Today about 11 o’clock the Pilot came on Board us – There is another Barque⁵⁵ close to us – We arrived in Hobart Town about 8 o’ clock – The scenery about here is very picturesque – There is a Man-of-War here called The *Hyacinth*⁵⁶ – M^r Weir & Doctor went on shore –

January 24th Today Baxter & I came on shore about 2 o’clock – Met Major Deere & Colonel Leahy⁵⁷ – we went with the former to the Mess Room⁵⁸ – In the Evening we went with D^r

⁵³ Mrs G.P. Malcolm. AB’s use of the phrase “The two Inseperables (sic)” implies that a close bond had developed between the two. This was unusual as hierarchies of separation between social groups on board ships were usually as strictly maintained as they were in English society. Annie, a cabin passenger and an officer’s wife, would not normally associate with the wife of an enlisted man, such as Mrs Malcolm.

⁵⁴ Mrs John Leviston.

⁵⁵ When the *AJ* arrived there were fifteen vessels in port, seven of them were barques (*Janet, Margaret Graham, Sir John Rae Reid, Guardian, Adams, City of Edinburgh* and *Auriga*) (Nicholson 27-29).

⁵⁶ A 600-ton Royal Navy frigate, commanded by F. Blackwood, arrived Hobart Town 19 Dec. from Madras. Its mast and rigging were overhauled before departure for Sydney on 25/27 Jan. 1835.

⁵⁷ Major George Deare and Lt.-Colonel John T. Leahy of the 21st Royal North British Fusiliers (hereafter 21st Foot), stationed in VDL 1833-1839/40. Leahy was the commanding officer.

⁵⁸ At Angelsea Barracks located in Davey St overlooking the town and harbour. Construction had begun in 1814.

McTernan & the Solicitor-General⁵⁹ to a Fancy Ball⁶⁰ at the Attorney-General's – M^r Stephen's⁶¹

– We slept at the "Freemason's Hotel"⁶² –

January 25th Went on Board early – Delivered some letters on Board the *Hyacinth* – It sails early tomorrow morning for Sydney – This place is not the cheapest I was ever in – M^{rs} Mackay & M^{rs} Peddie called today⁶³ – [...]

January 30th The Convicts landed today – The Guard likewise – A row with them in the evening – Baxter dined at Mess –

January 31st Today Baxter, Colonel Leahy the doctor & I went to astonish the Natives – They are curious & interesting⁶⁴ – We bought a dinner Tea & breakfast set – [...]

February 4th This morning Baxter was with the rest of the men inspected by the Governor⁶⁵ – They march tomorrow –

February 5th This morning at five o'clock my little Pet left this for Launceston – I do not start until this day week –...

⁵⁹ Edward Macdowell (1798-1860), arrived VDL 1833, Solicitor-General from Jan. 1833 until Sept. 1837 when he succeeded Alfred Stephen as Attorney-General. He held this position until his dismissal in 1841.

⁶⁰ In *Memories* AB gives a concise account of the ball as "a thoroughly enjoyable one." She writes "the ground in front of our entertainer's house [was] studded with tents, and at the entrance of these were several Indians, servant to some gentlemen from Madras" and remarks that although "direct from Kent, which was then justly celebrated for pretty women, [she] could not avoid being struck by the good looks of several of the ladies that evening" (6). The *Colonial Times* (hereafter *CT*) includes the following mention of this occasion: "We have just received a most humorous account of a late fancy ball. We should have inserted it had it not contained several very pointed remarks respecting some of the *fair* visitors. The dialogue between the trio – the puppy – the monkey and the baboon – is excellent; but it is rather too personal and ill-natured – perhaps however, we may draw out the *sting*, and favour our readers next week with the 'fancy ball' or butterfly's hop, by *Horne-it*" (27 Jan. 1835).

⁶¹ Alfred Stephen (1802-1894), arrived VDL 1824, Attorney-General from Nov. 1833 until his departure for NSW in 1839, appointed Chief Justice of NSW in 1844. He held this position until his retirement in 1873. He received a knighthood in 1846 and was a member of the Legislative Council of NSW between 1856 and 1858. AB remembered him as "one of the most gentlemanly, clever men" that she had "ever had the pleasure of meeting" (*Memories* 5).

⁶² A centrally located hotel at the corner of Harrington and Davey Streets, close to the port and military barracks (Robson 178), described in the *Hobart Town Courier* (hereafter *HTC*) as an "extensive, eligible and commodious Family Hotel ... comprising a superb ball room and theatre, 40ft. in length, [and] 18 bedrooms" (18 July 1834).

⁶³ Wives of Capt. Mackay and Capt. J.C. Peddie both of the 21st Foot.

⁶⁴ Perhaps Aboriginal companions of George Augustus Robinson who between 1829 and 1834 conducted several missions in VDL designed to persuade the severely depleted Aboriginal population to agree to resettlement on Flinders Island. By August 1834 this project was largely completed and Robinson returned to Hobart Town. In October 1835 he went to Flinders Island where he was employed as commandant of the Aboriginal settlement Wybalenna until February 1839.

⁶⁵ George Arthur (1784-1854), Lieutenant-Governor of VDL 1824-1836.

February 6th I am so annoyed at my little stupid's⁶⁶ forgetting the key of his Carpet Bag⁶⁷ – This evening I took a walk with Captⁿ & M^{rs} Peddie & Captⁿ & M^{rs} Mackay & then drank Tea with the Latter – I had a note from my little⁶⁸ husband – How I wish I were with him again – for I'm so lonely – [...]

February 11th Captⁿ Peddie called today – Tomorrow I start for Launceston, to see my better half.⁶⁹

February 12th Stopped at Oatlands tonight ⁷⁰–

February 13th Arrived at Launceston at 8 o'clock in the evening – My little Boy waiting for me & had the house so nice for me –

February 14th Today Captⁿ Tew,⁷¹ Captⁿ & M^{rs} Boyd,⁷² & D^r & M^{rs} Seccombe⁷³ called – likewise M^r & M^{rs} Barnes⁷⁴ & M^r Sharland⁷⁵ –

February 15th Went to church –

March 15th My Book has been away all this time – We have been to two Dances one at M^{rs} Barnes & the other M^{rs} Rabie's⁷⁶ – ... – This evening Miss Woolrabe,⁷⁷ Baxter & I went for a long walk –

⁶⁶ “Stupid's” replaces another word which has been erased, possibly later.

⁶⁷ A travel bag originally made of carpet.

⁶⁸ Again a word appears to have been erased and replaced with “little.”

⁶⁹ “Better half” is written as superscript above two words which have been vigorously crossed out.

⁷⁰ Oatlands was a garrison town approximately half-way between Hobart Town and Launceston. The weekly coach service, operated by Mr J.E. Cox, departed Hobart Town every Thursday at 6.00 a.m. coach passengers were accommodated overnight at the Franklin Inn. The distance travelled was 120 miles (193 km) and the road was not well made (Stancombe 39-40).

⁷¹ George Tew 50th Foot.

⁷² Probably William Boyd 21st Foot and his wife (Bethel 100).

⁷³ William Seccombe (?1796 -1864) arrived VDL 1824. In the 1830s he was in charge of the Colonial Hospital in Launceston and in the 1840s he was transferred to Hobart Town. He was a controversial figure and was several times accused of “neglect and irregular performance of duty” (ADB). His wife, Sophia, was the daughter of Anthony Fenn Kemp (q.v.) and his second wife Elizabeth Riley.

⁷⁴ William Barnes (?1791-1848) and his wife Anne, sister of William Stanley Sharland (q.v.), married July 1830, one child: William (1832-1898). Barnes arrived VDL 1824, established Launceston's first brewery, and eventually became very wealthy. He let the brewery in 1835 and after that divided his time between his estates at Trevallyn near Launceston and Plaisance at Kelso.

⁷⁵ William Stanley Sharland (q.v.).

⁷⁶ Richardie Reibey, neé Allan, wife of Thomas Haydock Reibey (1796-1842), son of former convict Mary Reibey, who was a successful businesswoman in Sydney. He was a successful Launceston merchant. The Reibey's lived at Entally, a property 6 miles (9.6 km) from Launceston.

⁷⁷ Louise Woolrabe, daughter of John Woolrabe, Deputy Assistant Commissary General in Launceston.

March 16th This morning Baxter went out Kangaroo hunting⁷⁸ & in the evening to the Barracks –
[...]

March 25th Baxter out Kangaroo hunting – I called on M^{rs} Lyttleton⁷⁹ & M^r Wright⁸⁰ –

April 20th As there is nothing very very particularly interesting occurs here, I do not so often trouble my Journal – Last Sunday being the 12th day of this month, a wreck took place near to Hobart Town – Major Ryan commanded the Guard on Board the ship “George the third”, and M^r M^cGregor was on Board likewise – one hundred and twenty eight lives were lost⁸¹ – It was indeed a most melancholy thing altogether – The two officers are now at Hobart Town – I wrote to my Uncle and M^r Woodward⁸² on the 11th inst. Today M^r B. went out Kangaroo hunting. Miss Wellman is to be married on Saturday next to M^r Mason⁸³ –

April 25th M^r MacGregor died the day before yesterday – Miss Wellman was spliced yesterday –
[...]

May 12th Today I wrote, by the *Lotus*,⁸⁴ to my beloved Uncle Toby – Baxter wrote in it – My poor Tommy Tomkins,⁸⁵ has been & still is ill – [...]

⁷⁸ Kangaroo hunting was a favourite leisure pastime for military personnel. Kangaroos provided an exhilarating chase and a palatable source of food (Santich 118). The animals were very alert and moved with considerable speed and proved difficult to shoot. Dogs, usually a cross between a wolfhound and greyhound, were used to chase down and kill the animals. It was common for civil and military officers to keep one or more hunting dogs for this purpose (Boyce 12, 14, 19).

⁷⁹ Ann Lyttleton (q.v.).

⁸⁰ Presumably Arundel Wright, manager of the Post Office at Launceston (Bethel 101).

⁸¹ Major Thomas Ryan (1790-1846), 50th Foot, commandant at Launceston 1835-1839, commanded the military guard on the *George III*, a 394-ton convict transport commanded by William Moxey, which embarked 220 male prisoners at Woolwich before departing 12 Dec. 1834 for VDL. The vessel was shipwrecked in D’Entrecasteaux Channel on the evening of 12 Apr. 1835 after striking a submerged and previously unknown rock, 60 miles (96 km) south of Hobart Town. In all, 133 lives were lost, of whom all but six were convicts. There were several conflicting accounts of events in the period following the collision. It was suggested that prisoners were confined amid chaos beyond the time when it was safe for them to be so. Criticism was levelled at the guard whose commanding officers had left the ship while the convicts were still in the hold. An inquiry exonerated the master and all of the officers of all blame in the tragedy. Mr Macgregor who was assistant-surgeon of the 50th wandered from Southport Beach and was lost in the bush. He was rescued on 14 Apr. 1835. At the time the Colonial Surgeon assessed his condition as severe. AB’s entry for 25 Apr. recording his death indicates that he did not survive. The colonial surgeon considered that if he had not been rescued he must have died within two hours (Bateson 232-41). AB was likely to have known both Macgregor and Ryan.

⁸² F. Woodward, husband of AB’s sister, Harriet.

⁸³ Abigail Welman (1818-1852), third daughter of Major Harvey Welman (q.v.) was married to Thomas Mason, police magistrate at New Norfolk, on 25 Apr. 1835 at St. John’s Church Launceston by Rev. W. H. Browne (*Cornwall Chronicle* [hereafter CC] 9 May 1835).

⁸⁴ 300-ton barque, commanded by George F. Gore, arrived 30 Jan. 1835 from London, departed 15 May 1835 for London.

June 18th No fun going on in remembrance of the Battle of Waterloo⁸⁶ – Baxter exchanged his horse for a nice little Mare – I am very ill –

June 19th Louise's piano comes today by the *Norval*⁸⁷ from London – No letters –

June 28th I am writing by the *Anne*⁸⁸ to Harriet, Cressy⁸⁹ & my Uncle – [...]

August 1st Wrote to My Uncle[,] Hal & M^{rs} R⁹⁰ by the *Lochiel*⁹¹ – On July 31st wrote to M^{rs} Briggs –

August 22nd had a very slight Mishap – But why! In the name of the Prophet trouble these pages with such trifles! Dear Baxter away all the week Kangaroo hunting – How much I wonder I receive no letter from my own Engineer –

October 5th Last night I dreamed that my Dearest Toby was dead – Poor Mary is to have her leg off tomorrow⁹² – We went yesterday a little PicNic to the first Basin⁹³ –

October 6th Baxter dreamed last night that he murdered his Mother – God knows how far such a thought is from his dear good heart –

December 1st Had an extraordinary dream which I sincerely trust may never come true – Reading that work full of "Feeling" – Gilbert Earle⁹⁴ – Talking of feeling my heart feels – queer – and a little pain in it too – Because I am married people can't imagine that I can have any pain in my heart! If they could but feel it for a minute, or see into it – But why should I wish everybody to know what is passing there!

⁸⁵ A character from the comic duet "Polly Hopkins and Tommy Tompkins" arranged by John Paddon and published by George Willig of Baltimore in 1827.

⁸⁶ The anniversary of the Duke of Wellington's victory over Napoleon at Waterloo on 18 June 1815, traditionally a day of celebration in Britain as AB's entry for 18 June 1840 indicates: "Waterloo-day – No firing of guns, and military music! No reviews in honour of this anniversary of our great day!"

⁸⁷ 295-ton barque, arrived Launceston 27-29 May from London, departed 3 July 1835 for Sydney.

⁸⁸ 170-ton brig, arrived Hobart Town 28 June 1835 from Mauritius, departed 23 July 1835 for Singapore.

⁸⁹ Cressy Douglas, AB's school friend and sister to John and Archibald Douglas (see 12 Sep. 1835).

⁹⁰ Mrs Reid (see entry 3 Nov. 1834).

⁹¹ 293/ 300-ton barque, commanded by Thomas Millon, arrived 13 June 1835 from Sydney, departed 29 Aug. 1835 for London.

⁹² AB's servant Mary, the young wife of a soldier, injured her knee endeavouring to escape from her drunken husband, "so badly as to oblige amputation of the limb" (*Memories* xii).

⁹³ Picturesque pool in Launceston's Cataract Gorge, a short distance from the city centre, and popular for recreation. John Dent remarks that in the early years of settlement this area was reached via a pathway off the end of York St. and over the saddle just south of Cataract Hill (74).

⁹⁴ Gilbert Earle, *Some Account of the Late Gilbert Earle, Esquire written by Himself* (London: Charles Knight, 1824).

December 2nd Such a delightful day – A Déjeune à la fourchette – Déjà mon rêve est venu un peu vrai⁹⁵ – I have not spent such a pleasant day since I left dear Old England

December 7th My boy's Birthday – twenty-two years old – I was nineteen on the 24th of last month – I fancy I am as “ill – – – – –”

December 22nd I was blooded⁹⁶ on the day before yesterday – for a pain in my side – wrote to Constance Wells,⁹⁷ Mama,⁹⁸ & dear Hal yesterday by the *Westmoreland*⁹⁹ – Baxter out all night hunting twice this week – ...

December 25th Never experienced such a warm Christmas Day – By ourselves to dinner – ...

December 26th Invited to a fishing party – Dine at M^r Lyttleton's¹⁰⁰ on Wednesday – Last week dined at the Barnes's – Lovely weather, only rather too hot – Dear old England I miss you & My friends more every hour – I think it is impossible ever to be quite reconciled to this Country – Nous verrons!¹⁰¹

January 18th 1836 Rode on horseback today with my little man & Captain O'Hara¹⁰² – ...

January 25th My dear friends the Lyttleton's went to Norfolk Plains¹⁰³ – I shall miss them so very much –

⁹⁵ A cosy lunch [or a buffet lunch] – already my dream has become a little bit true (French). The phrase “*a déjeuner à la fourchette*” appeared in the *HTC* for 23 Dec. 1836 to describe the meal served at annual December fete hosted by Rev. R. Davies (q.v.) and his wife Maria (q.v.) to benefit the Longford Academy, a private establishment and the colony's “leading boarding school for boys” (Robson 285). AB is possibly referring to her attendance at this event for 1835.

⁹⁶ A medical procedure in which blood was drained from a surgically made puncture wound in a vein (usually in the arm) and collected in a pewter or ceramic bleeding bowl. Blooding was popular until the mid-nineteenth century and was an accepted panacea for a wide range of complaints. The procedure was assumed beneficial to remove toxins – believed to be the cause of the complaint – from the body (Shorter 122, Warren 16).

⁹⁷ Presumably a school friend. She is later described by AB as a “remarkably ladylike woman ... all gentleness and placidity.” She had the misfortune to be seduced by a married man, with whom she had a child (30 Sep. 1843).

⁹⁸ This is the first time AB has mentioned her mother since the journal began.

⁹⁹ 404-ton ship from Sydney, commanded by J. Brigstock, arrived 10 Oct. 1835 from Sydney, departed 18 Dec. 1835 for London, carried wool, whale oil, whalebone, bark and curiosities.

¹⁰⁰ William Lyttleton, husband of Ann Lyttleton (q.v.).

¹⁰¹ We will see (French).

¹⁰² Willoughby Davy O'Hara (1808-1838), captain of the 50th Foot. AB later describes him as “a young clever man – with money” (26 Nov. 1838).

¹⁰³ A fertile farming district, south of Launceston, between the Lake, Liffey and South Esk Rivers, sometimes denoted as N. Plains or N.P. The towns of Longford, Cressy and Carrick are in this region. The Lyttletons had likely gone to Norfolk Plains to visit their daughter Maria Davies and her husband.

February 7th My Darling's Birthday – Only one being fully knows how I wish him every happiness –

February 8th This day two years I was married – Today I came down to George Town,¹⁰⁴ with my truly delightful friends – I think I should like this little village – ...

February 10th This morning Baxter & M^r Twines¹⁰⁵ went to Launceston at 4 o'clock – At about ½ 8 we were hurried on board the *Ann* – M^r & M^{rs} Davies & Mess^{rs} Archer & Yeole went with our good friends the Lyttleton's – Such a parting I never again wish to see – Poor M^{rs} Davies will, I am afraid feel it very much¹⁰⁶ – ...

February 13th This morning Baxter and M^r Yeole¹⁰⁷ went at 5 o'clock to Launceston – we follow them at 12 – ...

March 3rd We went to a delightful Ball at the Government Cottage¹⁰⁸ – It was kept up late – Baxter is not very well – The races were last week¹⁰⁹ – The company at the Ball was very

¹⁰⁴ This settlement was 30 miles (50km) from Launceston on the eastern bank of the Tamar River. William Patterson established a settlement there in 1804 but it was abandoned in 1806 largely due to a paucity of water. It was a popular summer holiday spot for wealthy people in the region. James Cox (q.v.) was among those established men who had summer residences in the town.

¹⁰⁵ Not identified.

¹⁰⁶ Maria Davies' parents, William (?1786-1839) and Ann Lyttleton (q.v.), her brother Thomas (Tom) (b. 1826) and her sister departed on the *Ann* for London. The 389-ton barque, commanded by John Virtue, arrived in Launceston from London on 19 Oct. 1835, and was cleared for departure from Launceston on 6 Feb. 1836, before it sailed from George Town on 9/10 Feb. The Lyttletons were returning to London following William Lyttleton's retirement as Police Magistrate. Also on board were George and John (?b. 1824) Allan, their sister Margaret and her husband Patrecius Welsh and children Isabella Morrison Welsh (b. 1834) and Thomas Lee Welsh (b. 1836); Richard Youl [Yeole] (b. 1821), brother of James Youl (q.v.) and Joseph Archer son of Thomas and Susan Archer (q.v.). The young men were presumably going to England for educational purposes.

¹⁰⁷ James Youl (q.v.).

¹⁰⁸ The Queen's Birthday Ball was held on 3 Mar. at Government Cottage, the official government residence in the north since its construction in 1807 with Lt-Gov. Sir George Arthur in attendance. The *CC* reports that this event was patronised "very numerously by the Officials, Military and expectants for Court Patronage" and that the "arrangements are said to have been of the most costly description, and upon the most liberal scale ... 'SEVERAL TOASTS' [were given during the] splendid rejoicing, which the happy participants kept up until a very late (early) hour." The newspaper regrets that "that in the invitation to Government House so liberally distributed (as we learn) during his Excellency's visit to this Town, many of the oldest established, and most respectable of our merchants and Inhabitants have been overlooked" (5 Mar. 1836).

¹⁰⁹ Races were held annually over three days at the beginning of March in Launceston.

mixed¹¹⁰ – M^{rs} G Horne¹¹¹ was the prettiest woman in the room, altho’ not a morsel of style about her – D.-S.-C.-J.-M.-S.-L French.¹¹²

March 12th What a miserable day I have passed today – thinking of my own dear Country & friends – I may try to forget past days – but I never shall be able to do so – Entirely – ...

March 20th Today I came to Mr Davies – ...

March 24th Dined at M^{rs} T Archer’s¹¹³ today – I am getting much better – ...

March 27th Mama’s birthday today – she enters her 50th year – M^{rs} Dumeresq¹¹⁴ & Captⁿ O’Hara left today – Baxter for the first time in his life went to church three times¹¹⁵ – I am going to write to my Darling –...

March 31st Good Friday – Dined at M^r & M^{rs} M^cLeod’s at Perth.¹¹⁶ Poor M^{rs} Davies is suffering very much with the Face ache¹¹⁷ – ...

April 4th ... – I go into Town on Thursday – I sent M^{rs} Lyttleton’s & Harriet’s letters today – and William’s –

¹¹⁰ “Mixed” or “mixture” were descriptive terms used by those who considered themselves members of the gentry to register disdain for public affairs such as the Birthday ball where the company was not exclusive, but included a mixture of social groups (Russell, *Wish* 71-3).

¹¹¹ Wife of Launceston solicitor George Horne. AB describes Mrs Horne at length in a later journal entry as having an “extremely pretty face” and indicates that she was considered a “rival” for AB. The two women were friends until Mrs Horne’s indiscretion with several men made it necessary for AB to be “not ‘at home’” when the former called ([] Dec. 1843).

¹¹² AB used the first (or in this case possibly the last) letters of words as a substitute for the whole word. The word “French” after the coded sequence indicates that the relevant words are French. The distinction is necessary as both French and English were used. “French” and “English” are sometimes abbreviated to “F” and “E” (and sometimes “eng”).

¹¹³ Susan Archer (q.v.) wife of Thomas Archer (q.v.).

¹¹⁴ Frances Blanche Dumaesq (née Legge) was the wife of Edward Dumaesq (1802 -1906), who was Surveyor-General 1825-1828, and Police Magistrate at New Norfolk 1828-1833. After ill-health forced his retirement from government service in 1835 he took over Illawarra, an estate near Longford.

¹¹⁵ Baxter’s devotion was perhaps motivated by the fact that he was engaged to fight a duel on 2 Apr. 1836. The CC reported this event in its edition for Saturday 2 Apr. 1836: “a meeting took place this morning between Lieutenant Baxter of the 50th Regiment and a son of Captain Wood, of the Snake Banks, which terminated without injury to either party after an exchange of shots.” AB makes no mention of this incident in her journal. The practice of duelling was frowned upon.

¹¹⁶ Perth was a small garrison town on the north bank of the South Esk River, 9 miles (15 km) south of Launceston. Major Donald McLeod (q.v.) was the settlement’s first magistrate. In the 1830s he and his wife Catherine (q.v.) lived at Perth Cottage, “a long wooden building near the river ... later destroyed by fire” (Rait 4). Although the Major died in 1838, Catherine McLeod and several of her children remained friendly with AB for a number of years.

¹¹⁷ Maria Davies suffered quite severely from Tic Doleureux, or trigeminal neuralgia, a disorder of the fifth cranial nerve causing severe shooting pain along one side of the face. Attacks can be quite severe and debilitating and brought on by something as simple as washing one’s face.

April 29th On Monday I came out to Mr Davies' – ... – I feel very dull lately – and cannot tell Why? Ah! if we could but reach our own hearts –

April 30th Yesterday we dined at M^{rs} Dumeresq's – and in the evening went to M^{rs} W Archer's¹¹⁸ – M^r and M^{rs} Frankland¹¹⁹ were there – The former is certainly the most agreeable person I ever met with –

May 1st Today a dinner at M^{rs} Davies' – M^r Frankland took my likeness –

May 2nd On the 27th I had a letter from my Uncle – Today I came home – We are going to write to my Uncle by the ship *Elizabeth Taylorson*¹²⁰ – Well & I must make up my mind to stay in this colony! In that case I fear my existence will be but short! But there is a God who knows all the desires of our hearts, & who thinks fit to grant to us sometimes, things that we scarcely dare think of – To his protection I commend myself!– [...]

June 16th M^{rs} Hazard¹²¹ has been staying with me four days – The day before yesterday she sailed for Sydney! I have been very ill – & am still far from well – ...

July 7th We have been seven days in our new cottage. I like it better every day – Quarter sessions¹²² going on – Today two strange Masculines paid me a visit – Baxter is Paymaster now – Captⁿ O'Hara is at Perth – No news from England or America – ... – Miss Reiby was married last Tuesday week to C. R. Arthur¹²³ –

¹¹⁸ Caroline, née Harrison, wife of William Archer (q.v.).

¹¹⁹ George Frankland (1800 -1838), and his wife Ann (née Mason), arrived VDL 1827. He was appointed Surveyor-General in Mar. 1828 and held the position until his death in 1838. Conscientious and thorough, he produced a map of VDL which delineated counties and parishes and showed the position of each settler's grant.

¹²⁰ 242-ton brig, commanded by William Saunders, arrived 13 Jan. 1836 from the Cape via Hobart Town, departed 28 May 1836 for London via the Cape, carried wool, bark and 3 passengers.

¹²¹ Elizabeth W. Hazard, daughter of William Smith, married Edward G. Hazard, but was widowed at an early age and had no children. AB first mentions her in the entry for 14 Mar. 1836. The two women were quite friendly until Mrs Hazard's departure. AB maintained regular correspondence with her for some time and visited her in Sydney (Frost *Journal* 278).

¹²² A periodic local court which had limited criminal and civil jurisdiction. The proceedings of the July session of the Launceston court were listed in the *Launceston Advertiser* (hereafter *LA*) on 7 July 1836, the day of AB's entry. Peter Mulgrave, chairman of the Quarter-Sessions and a military jury heard several cases of stealing and one case of concealment of birth.

¹²³ Mary Allen Reibey, daughter of Thomas Haydock Reibey, married Charles Arthur, nephew of Lt-Gov. George Arthur at Longford.

July 22nd Yesterday Cap^t O'Hara came into Town & brought me the good news that my beloved William is promoted to 1st Lieut. ... Received two Papers from Mama on the 10th per *Eveline*¹²⁴ – [...]

September 1st Today I sent the Desk to Harriet – a brooch – with letters to herself & husband ~ Miss Thompson¹²⁵ & dear William – Not able to leave the sofa – Dans l'après-midi un est venu me voir¹²⁶ – I.I.S.I.L. A.V.A. I D. H – [...]

October 9th Went to a delightful dance at M^{rs} Reiby's – All the world there – not much of the beau-monde¹²⁷ tho' – [...]

December 13th Today the Fête took place – upwards of 300 persons here – the *dejeûné* was excellent – all went off well – fireworks good – ... – (The dining bower~ 74 feet by 24)¹²⁸ [...]

December 20th Today we went to Perth to witness the (or rather celebrate the wedding) of Doctor Salmon & his bride (Miss M^cLeod)¹²⁹ We dined at three o'clock & danced until ½ past 7 – when we returned home – (Gothic)¹³⁰ [...]

December 24th Christmas eve – we came home this morning¹³¹ – I am very tired – The *Eden* – Prison ship arrived in Hobart Town¹³² – Baxter has been at Ben Lomond¹³³ all the time I have been away – Wrote to M^{rs} Lyttleton & Harriette – but did not mention the *Dejeûné* –

¹²⁴ 301-ton barque, commanded by Captain Jamison, arrived Hobart Town 12 July from London (*HTC* 15 July 1836).

¹²⁵ Not identified.

¹²⁶ One [someone] came to see me in the afternoon (French).

¹²⁷ Literally “the beautiful world” (French) but used colloquially to indicate (the world of) fashionable society (*OED*).

¹²⁸ The *HTC* of 23 Dec. 1836 includes a long report of this annual fete hosted by Rowland and Maria Davies. Guests were greeted by “their worthy host and hostess” and “amused themselves in promenading the grounds and visiting the various tents and marquees ... erected for their accommodation” before being summoned soon after two o'clock to “the banqueting room, a spacious temporary erection decorated with evergreens (sic) wreaths of flowers where a *dejeuner a la fourchette* was prepared for 300 persons, the tables being literally covered with dainty devices and the good things of this world. ... The wines were choice and abundant and several loyal and local toasts were given and drank with considerable applause. Quadrilles and waltzing followed in animating succession and the days' entertainment closed with a display of fireworks.” AB's journal entry for 11 Dec. 1836 indicates she helped Maria Davies with preparations for the function.

¹²⁹ Catherine Cameron McLeod (b. 1811), daughter of Major Donald and Mrs Catherine McLeod (q.v.) married Dr John Richard Duffel Salmon.

¹³⁰ “(Gothic)” is written in paler ink than the other journal text.

¹³¹ AB had returned from a two-day excursion to Oatlands and Campbell Town with the Davies.

¹³² 513-ton brig, commanded by Alex L. Mollison, arrived Hobart Town 22 Dec. 1836 from Plymouth with 276 male convicts and 30 soldiers of the 80th Regiment, departed 7 Jan. 1837 for Sydney.

December 25th Christmas-day – the day on which we should be so happy – when a Saviour was born, for us sinful creatures – Yet how is this great event celebrated? by Drunkenness & all sorts of riot – God is forgiving! but will he not ask with the disciple “How oft shall my brother offend, & I forgive him?” – Yes – and we may dread the 70 times 70¹³⁴ – The third Christmas I have been from old England – [...]

December 28th Today M^r Smith’s & M^{rs} Hazard’s letters came by the *William*¹³⁵ – Andy returns tomorrow – Beginning to preserve¹³⁶ – Called on M^{rs} J Reiby¹³⁷ –

December 31st Had two papers from Hal – & one from Mama – The last day in this year – May God preserve me to see dear Old England & my friends again – & them to spend many many happy years – ...

January 1st 1837– Sunday – Another year come! May I ask myself whether more wisdom is come with it? My conscience will not let me answer the question satisfactorily – I am not any nearer my salvation than two years back. nor as near for am I not sinning daily? – Hold thou up my goings that my footsteps slip not!¹³⁸ – [...]

Feb January 30th Stayed at “Clarendon” – M^r Cox’s¹³⁹ – & the next day proceeded to a Ball at Cambletown¹⁴⁰ – It was a very pleasant one – Sir John & Lady Franklin¹⁴¹ were there – I went to Ashby with M^{rs} Abbott¹⁴² –

¹³³ A mountain 31 miles (50km) south-east of Launceston where Baxter was possibly supervising a chain gang or pursuing bushrangers.

¹³⁴ An allusion to Matthew 18:21: AB recalls “Then came Peter, and said to him, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Until seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times but Until seventy times seven.”

¹³⁵ The brig *William* provided a regular service between Launceston and Sydney.

¹³⁶ Fruit and vegetables which were plentiful in summer were preserved for winter use. The produce was preserved as jams, chutneys and mustard pickles. It was also popular to preserve whole fruit with sugar syrup in glass jars. The prepared bottles were heat sterilized and later sealed with wax.

¹³⁷ Rebecca (née Breedon) (b. 1796), wife of James Haydock Reibey (1798-1843), who was a banker and merchant, and brother to Thomas Reibey.

¹³⁸ Psalms 17:5: “Hold up my going in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not.”

¹³⁹ James Cox (q.v.).

¹⁴⁰ Campbell Town, 40 miles (64 km) south of Launceston, situated in level pastoral country. In the 1830s the main road between Launceston and Hobart Town passed through this town as it does today.

¹⁴¹ Sir John Franklin (1786-1847) replaced George Arthur as Lieutenant-Governor of VDL. He and his wife Lady Jane (1791-1875) arrived VDL on 6 Jan. 1837. The CC for 21 Jan. 1837 advises that the vice-regal couple intended “to visit the Town of Launceston and to make a tour of the colony as speedily as possible.” The tour included Spring Hill, Campbell Town, George Town, Launceston, Norfolk Plains, Bothwell,

February 1st Today I came as far as Woolmers¹⁴³ – Tomorrow I go into Town with M^r & M^{rs} T Archer –

February 3rd Lady Franklin held a Drawing-room – and such a mèlèe¹⁴⁴ – Mon Dieu!¹⁴⁵

February 5th Shall I ever forget this day, seven years!¹⁴⁶ Never! the heart can never forget its first impressions – et toi, mon bien-aimi ou est tu? – tu ne pense pas à moi – c'est égal! – je t'aimerai toujours¹⁴⁷ – I wrote to Harriet & M^{rs} Lyttleton by the *Ann* – [...]

March 13th Captⁿ O'Hara's birthday – M^r Dry drove his sister,¹⁴⁸ Baxter & myself out to Perth where my better half dined with his brother officers – the rest of us drove on to M^r James Youl's¹⁴⁹ – we remained there that night –

March 14th This morning M^r Connolly,¹⁵⁰ D^r Landell,¹⁵¹ M^r Smythe¹⁵² M^r McLeod¹⁵³ & Baxter came – we had Luncheon and then started for M^r Youl's at “Kelvin Grove”¹⁵⁴ – when M^r James

Hamilton and New Norfolk, after the ball at Campbell Town “His Excellency and family sought repose in the hospitable mansion of Mr [Richard] Willis”(HTC 3 Feb. 1837).

¹⁴² Louisa Abbott, widow of Major Edward Abbott (1766-1832) one time civil commandant of Launceston, arrived VDL 1815, and mother of Edward (1801), John (b. 1803), William (b. 1816), Mary (b. 1818), (b.1821) and Louisa (m. Joseph Penny 1838). Her house at Ashby, the family property near Ross, had thirteen rooms “finished in first rate style” (HTC 7 Sept. 1838).

¹⁴³ Thomas Archer's substantial property at Norfolk Plains. The house in which AB was a guest was built in 1819. It was a brick-nogged wooden structure of twelve rooms, built in the colonial style with a spacious verandah. It had a westerly aspect and was within 50 yards (45 m) of the Macquarie River (Chick 51, 97). The house was extended in the late 1830s.

¹⁴⁴ The CC advertises this event: “Lady Franklin will be happy to receive the Ladies who may be desirous of waiting on her at the Government House, Launceston on Friday the 3rd of Feb, next, from 8 to 11 o'clock.” Ladies were requested to “deliver cards to the aide-de-camp before and also to bring them along on the day” (21 Jan. 1837).

¹⁴⁵ My God (French).

¹⁴⁶ On 5 Feb. 1830 AB “spoke for the first time” with a man she identifies as George W—g whom she claimed to love “so innocently, so exquisitely ... but not passionately” and who sought to take advantage of her. AB's mother, although anxious for her daughter to marry, did not approve of this union (1 Jan. 1839). (See also entry for 25 June 1837.)

¹⁴⁷ And you, my good friend where are you? – you don't think of me – it doesn't matter – I will love you always (French).

¹⁴⁸ Richard Dry (q.v.) and his sister Eliza (b. 1811).

¹⁴⁹ James Youl had recently built a house on his property Symmons Plains.

¹⁵⁰ Michael Connolly (1809-1858), Launceston merchant and businessman in the 1830s and pioneer of settlement at Port Phillip. AB sometimes referred to him as “father.”

¹⁵¹ Thomas Landale (1795-1851), initially visited VDL as surgeon on the *Midas* in 1821, returned to settle in 1823. He married Harriet Dry (b. 1809), sister of Richard Dry (q.v.) in 1826. He was a prosperous and respected citizen of Launceston, where he practised medicine and was involved in several business ventures. He and Harriet lived for a number of years in Charles St and later at Elphin Farm, the Dry family home on the outskirts of Launceston. He and Harriet had eight children: Maria Jessie (b.1827), Eliza Anne (b.1828), Thomas (b.1830), Richard (b. 1831), Helen Margaret (b.1834), Clarence William (b. 1835), Maria Rebecca (b. 1836), Edward (b. 1846), William Dry (1847), Alice Mary (b. 1849). Landale and Michael Connolly were likely the chaperones for this group of young people.

Youl drove Miss Connoly, Miss Dry & his two sisters. D^r Landell drove me in his gig – the remainder of the Gentlemen rode on horseback – we arrived early in the evening – Dined & then wandered about to see this pretty spot – it is surrounded by mountains & a pretty creek runs close by the house – in the evening we danced out of doors by fire light – we went to bed at about eleven –

March 15th This morning we started early for the marsh where we intended encamping the night – Misses Youl,¹⁵⁵ Miss Dry & D^r Landell rode in the Bullock cart – Baxter & M^r James Youl on the horse-cart – Miss Connoly too – I rode “Light-foot shaving-brush!”: (an elegant name for a pony with no tail.) M^r Cox¹⁵⁶ overtook us soon – we got to M^r Gurveets¹⁵⁷ about 11 o’clock – and he was kind enough to say he would show us the way – we had not gone far when the cart broke down – I then got on to M^r Gurvetts’ Mare – & the ladies were put on the different horses with us – we arrived in the Marsh about 3 o’clock – dined & the evening was spent in Dancing & singing –

March 16th This morning at daylight we prepared for the expedition – I mounted “Cocky” with no saddle – Miss Dry, “Judy” – Miss Connoly, Twipen – Elizabeth, the Mare & Miss Youl, “Light-foot” – after much persuasion – we certainly put up with every fatigue well – & I feel persuaded, but for the state of excitement that was kept up – we never should have reached the top of the Majestic Ben Lomond – Had it been possible I would have undergone twice the difficulty to have seen so beautiful a scene – when we reached the foot we had something to eat & drink & we then went up to the summit – Elizabeth & M^r Cox remained at the foot – What heart, what soul in this party did not feel the presence of one Great immortal being – the very rocks seemed to confess that altho’ high – there was yet a more exalted place – for they hang down their necks &

¹⁵² Henry Wilson Hutchinson Smythe (1815-1854), a drawing teacher and surveyor, arrived in Launceston from Swan River with his parents and sisters in 1831. Smythe produced a map of Launceston in 1835. He married AB’s friend Jessie Allan (q.v.) in 1841 and the two settled on the Broken River, 15 miles (24 km) from Shepparton on a property named Gowangardie (DAAO).

¹⁵³ One of the sons of Donald and Catherine McLeod (q.v.).

¹⁵⁴ Kelvin Grove was one of the smaller properties purchased by John Youl before 1826. In the 1830s it was run by his son John (b. c. 1811).

¹⁵⁵ Jane Matilda b. 1815 and Elizabeth b. 1819, sisters of James Youl. The two were sometimes referred to as “daughters” by AB (see entry for 25 June 1837).

¹⁵⁶ John Cox (q.v.), eldest son of James Cox (q.v.).

¹⁵⁷ Not identified.

seem to feel that they belong to the dust over which they raise they [sic] proud heads. I must say that sailors & persons constantly exposed to danger should be more seriously inclined than those who stay at home all their lives – for almost every step they take they see the Greatness of the One being – & must confess the care he takes of us his sinful flock – Lord! what is man that thou shouldst etc¹⁵⁸ – is then our exclamation constantly –

We came down faster than most of us had ever intended – I’m sure – for to tell the truth we slipped all the way nearly – we reached the tent at about 6 o’clock, after taking some refreshment at M^r Gurvett’s – we found D^r Landell making a fine steamer;¹⁵⁹ so inviting did the fire look, we were almost inclined to boil a gallop to come up – We staid up dancing & singing until very late –

March 17th St Patrick’s day – we were up early & started for M^r John Youl’s – a leaping match between Mess^{rs} Dry & M^cLeod after we got in – and a ride on the tree – dined & Danced in the evening – Tom Burrowes¹⁶⁰ came over & brought a fiddling friend with him – in the middle of a Quadrille¹⁶¹ the tree in which the fire was made – fell – & nearly on us – however our active limbs cleared the ground well –

March 18th We left Kelvin Grove to return to Symmon’s Plains¹⁶² – D^r Landell drove me back – M^r Youl had charge of all ~~all~~ the other ladies – the gentlemen all rode – We arrived at Clarendon –

¹⁵⁸ Possibly a reference to Psalms 144:3: “LORD, what is man, that thou takest knowledge of him! or the son of man, that thou makest account of him” or to Psalms 8:4 “What is man that You take thought of him, And the son of man that You care for him.” These words might also be inspired by William Fuller’s seventeenth-century hymn: “Lord, what is Man” – “Lord, what is man, lost man,/ That thou shouldest be so mindful of him” 8 April 2009 (http://www.recmusic.org/lieder/get_text.html?TextId=5847).

¹⁵⁹ Probably “kangaroo steamer,” a dish of finely chopped kangaroo meat, cooked with pieces of bacon or salt pork, seasoned with pepper and salt, and a little water, although Henry Melville claimed this was not necessary. The pot is covered with a tightly fitting lid and “left to stew or steam gently by the fireside” (Santich 116). Barbara Santich suggests it is an adaptation of the traditional English dish of “Jugged Hare” (118).

¹⁶⁰ Not identified.

¹⁶¹ Fashionable nineteenth-century dance of French origin, for two, four or more couples, first danced in England in 1815. The dance was complicated and lively; couples faced each other and danced only together (Rust 67).

¹⁶² The large pastoral property established by James Youl on the banks of the South Esk River. James inherited the land from his father John Youl (1773-1827) and built a house there in the 1830s. The property is still owned by members of this family.

& there we were obliged to remain – for the Dark sex¹⁶³ – were not sufficiently enlightened to drive us home, altho' it was midnight –

March 19th Sunday – Today at about 2 o'clock we came to Symmon's Plains – dined there & at ½ past 5 – we came into Launceston – M^r Dry drove us – Baxter & all the other guests remained the night –

March 20th ... – I don't remember ever spending a more delightful week – certainly not since I left England +

March 22nd Came out to Norfolk Plains — ...

Tuesday – March 28th /37 Dear Maria was this morning confined – a son & heir – came into this world of sorrow – he is blessed with good parents – may it therefore prove to him a happy one – He's a nice little red thing – with dark hair¹⁶⁴ – In the evening I went over to Woolmers – ...

March 31st I am going today to M^r J Youl's to a shooting party – I don't feel very well – M^{rs} Archer & Martha¹⁶⁵ gone to Maria's – How much I wish to hear from England – it is so long since I did so – On m'appelle Coquette – Mais je ne la suis pas – tant qu'une dame, qui doit savoir bien mieux!¹⁶⁶ – My good spirit says – “Annie, don't be scandalous!” Shall I mind my few whispers of cons-cience! –Conscience! did I say – Where is it? What is it? Je ne le connois pas!¹⁶⁷ –

April 1st Arrived about 3 o'clock ~~today~~ yesterday – dined & in the Evening – D^r & M^{rs} Salmon – Mess^{rs} M^cLeod – M^r & Miss Dry – two Mr Jones' – M^r Connoly – M^r Mackintosh – came – we danced until 6 o'clock this morning, when we gave M^r Smith's¹⁶⁸ health with three cheers – we then went to bed & slept until nine o'clock – the Gentlemen went shooting all but M^r Cheine¹⁶⁹ &

¹⁶³ AB sometimes referred to men as the “dark sex” and women as the “fair sex.”

¹⁶⁴ Rowland Lyttleton Davies, first of four children born to Maria and Rowland Davies.

¹⁶⁵ Martha Elizabeth Archer (b. 1821), daughter of Susan Archer (q.v.), m. Robert Quayle Kermode, son of William Kermode of Mona Vale, 12 Nov. 1839.

¹⁶⁶ People call me a coquette – But I am not so much that as I am a lady who ought to know much better (French). This criticism, probably from Susan Archer, no doubt arose because of AB's decision to attend the shooting party without an appropriate chaperone. James Youl was a bachelor, and while he lived at “Symmons Plains,” his mother and sisters lived in the family home at Perth.

¹⁶⁷ I don't know the answer to these questions (French).

¹⁶⁸ Of this group, Mr Smith, Mr Mackintosh, and the two Mr Jones cannot be identified.

¹⁶⁹ Walter Glass Cheine (1811-1849), “an English younger son,” purchased Gaddesden, a 7000-acre (28328 hec.) property with a “newly built solid stone Mansion, fit for the reception and accommodation of a family of the first distinction” (LA 24 Dec. 1836) near Campbell Town in 1837. He renamed it “Quorn Hall,” but

M^r Smythe— we breakfasted — & then danced — in fact I think we were nearly as merry a party as the Ben Lomond one — [...]

April 27th Came out with Norman M^cLeod¹⁷⁰ to Perth — a dance given here tomorrow — ...

April 28th At 7 o'clock A.M. the ladies began to arrive — a pleasant evening — Miss Gough¹⁷¹ — the nicest looking girl in the room — (to my taste!) M^r Hazlewood¹⁷² the “Beau” danced until ½ past six — at seven M^r Dry Miss Dry, Miss Youl & myself came into town — Miss Y is coming to stay with me tomorrow — I forgot to say that the Dance was in honor of Major & M^{rs} M^cL's 31st wedding day —

May 28th Major & M^{rs}, Marion & Jessie M^cLeod have started for Sydney in the *Richard Bell*¹⁷³ —

...

June 1st Poor Papa has been dead 15 years & Grandpapa 16 today¹⁷⁴ — I wrote to dear Toby — on the 28th of last month I wrote William a long letter — Reflections — Really Annie, you write more to your friends than they will like paying the postage for! Why do I write to any-body — not because I like them! For upon my word I often wonder if I love any person in the world — my wondering at last brings me to this conclusion — that I love, frequently love — myself! (I'll just look for the word wonder in Walker's Dictionary¹⁷⁵ — Wonder — v. n. To be struck with admiration — to be pleased or surprised so as to astonish!) wonder is not the word then — for I'm not astonished at loving myself! Reader? are you? — æ¹⁷⁶ ...

quickly “laid waste to his fortune” forcing the sale of the estate (Robertson 51). In 1840 he married Rebecca Cox (1814-1870), eldest daughter of James Cox (q.v.) and his first wife Mary.

¹⁷⁰ John Norman McLeod (1816-1886), third son of Donald and Catherine McLeod (q.v.).

¹⁷¹ Not identified.

¹⁷² Charles Hazlewood was a local landowner.

¹⁷³ 252-ton brig, commanded by Henry Rogers, arrived 16 Apr. 1837 from London, departed 28 May 1837 for Sydney. It carried nine passengers including Major McLeod and family.

¹⁷⁴ AB's father William Frederick Hadden died 1 June c.1821, while her grandfather James Frederick Hadden died 29 Oct. 1817.

¹⁷⁵ John Walker, *Critical Pronouncing Dictionary and Expositor of the English Language* (London, 1791). The British Library Integrated Catalogue lists a number of editions of this work. A revised edition of the dictionary was published by Joseph Smith of London in 1835.

¹⁷⁶ Author's footnote. “æ Amaze will do better —/A-maze — a place you once get in — but not out so easily —/ Now I can't get out of the way of hating mankind/ I mean Woman-kind too/ & loving myself!”

June 17th Getting deep (not sly) in my book – all by myself this wet evening – No! Not by myself when my books are left me! I’ve got a little touch of the Blues – (I should like to be a little of the Blue too!) Married 4 years, & writing like a silly girl – /Now for a new leaf – – –

June Monday 25th Hier au soir j’ai rêvé bien drôlement: - Un Mr D - - A.L.B.L.M.I’ - - - Je ne l’oublierai jamais¹⁷⁷ – I never ~~felt~~ experienced the same sort of feeling but on the 5th February 1830¹⁷⁸ –

On Friday I spent a very pleasant afternoon at M^r Dry’s – Baxter went out to M^r Youl’s – & returned on the following day – My dear little daughter wrote me a long letter – Poor soul! she has her little vexations – I must go out to Maria’s this week – she is in low spirits – & says she wishes me to go & comfort her with my merry face – My face is merry – But my heart! is that? No – I feel every day more gloomy – when by myself – yet why should it be so – I committed no crime – – but – one lasting one against myself –

I’ve frequently heard people say – that if a girl of eleven is smitten – the infatuation is sure to wear off – what would the pretended wise ones – say – of a girl of that age being smitten (as they term it) of concealing that feeling for two years – when her object confessed the same for her – & she was led by youth & passion to make a corresponding confession – Her friends told her that he intended to trifle with her – that he was dissipated – that he could not love so truly a child – this was done for 3½ years – when being told she should marry a very old man with an immense fortune – she preferred running into the extreme & married a young one with no fortune – 4 years have passed – she is abroad I think – but she declares against ever seeing her first – (& in my humble opinion) – her only love – Tell me – ye judges of children’s feelings! – Is this infatuation?

June 26th I’ve written to M^r Briggs¹⁷⁹ – I wonder whether we shall ever go to Sydney – I would like it – now that we are so near we may as well see the places – ...

¹⁷⁷ Last evening I had a very peculiar dream: – a Mr D[ry] ... I will never forget it (French).

¹⁷⁸ See note for entry 5 Feb. 1837.

¹⁷⁹ William Briggs (q.v.).

July 10th ... My journal! I allways come to you to enumerate all my grievances! No one shares the secrets of my heart as you do! – & why? Because your pages like my little troubles will never be seen! – I feel an allmost unusual depression of spirits tonight – Poor Mr Young of the 21st was drowned the week before last – he leaves a young widow – how much I pity her, if she loved him – even if she did not – why one gets accustomed to see a person – & when they die – you feel lonely – miserable¹⁸⁰ [...]

July 21st I received a letter from Harriette & one from Cox & Co.¹⁸¹ The former tells me that my own dear William is very ill. Worse news it would have been impossible to tell – unless of his death – This would be one of the many instances in which the best goes first – but I am anticipating a Death-blow – to myself & my dearest wishes – William is the last of his race – at least of the name of Hadden – I have a strange idea in my curious brain!

July 22nd Today M^r Dry drove my [sic] into town – on the 24th we dine at M^{rs} Salmon's – a report that we shall be sent from this place soon – I allmost hope not – I like the people about here – ...

August 3rd Last night M^r James Henty¹⁸² gave a delightful dance – Dieu! comme j'étois heureuse un peu du tems – Mais quand je pense que je suis mariée – et il ne faut que j'aime personne mes chateaux en espagne s'en va!¹⁸³ The Allens were here all night – Encore j'ai rêvée bien drolement – Ah! J'ai peur que mon rêve ne viendra jamais!¹⁸⁴ – Jessie Allen¹⁸⁵ & Miss Dry were decidedly the best looking people in the room last evening – I never felt such a fright before – The Beau! I've no idea of –

¹⁸⁰ Thomas Wharton Young of the 21st Foot married Amy, daughter of Anthony Fenn Kemp (q.v.) on 5 June 1835.

¹⁸¹ Long established British army agents who managed the affairs of military officers overseas.

¹⁸² James Henty (1800-1882) was the eldest son of Thomas Henty (1775-1839) and his wife Frances Elizabeth, née Hopkins. James arrived VDL in 1831 from Swan River with his wife Charlotte, née Carter. He became a prosperous, prominent and respected merchant in Launceston. He served the community as a Supreme Court juror, actively promoted free emigration, and agitated to secure a floating dock for the tidal Tamar River as well as a steam tug. He was involved in the foundation of the Launceston Grammar School and the building of Holy Trinity Church (Bassett 512).

¹⁸³ Oh God! How happy I was for a bit of the time – But when I think I'm married and I must be in love with nobody my dreams for the future are vanishing (literally "my castles in Spain are going away") (French).

¹⁸⁴ Again I have had a very peculiar dream – Ah! I fear that my dream will never come true! (French).

¹⁸⁵ Born 1821, third, and youngest, daughter of George Allan of Allan Vale, near Launceston, and sister to Margaret Pringle (m. Patrecius Welsh 1832), Isabella, George and John (?b. 1824), married Henry Wilson Hutchinson Smythe on 19 Feb. 1841 at Launceston.

How I shall regret leaving this! when I first came I was quite determined never to love any-body – but – some people you can't help loving – Quoique cela coûte la paix¹⁸⁶ –

We have changed our quarters – and are rather more comfortable than in the other house – I rode out of town with M^r Youl – No News in the town – [...]

August 30th Today I came out to N. Plains – Baxter drove me to Perth – M^r Davies to N. P. – [...]

September 7th Yesterday we went with M^{rs} Archer to Panshanger¹⁸⁷ – ...

September 9th Today Captain Tew & Baxter came out – a M^r Davies¹⁸⁸ is staying here – on the 15th I'm coming out again – Tomorrow I go in – Yesterday I felt very ill & in most miserable spirits – Poor M^{rs} Briggs is not expected to live – poor soul! She leaves three young children – I shall take Maria – and try as little as possible that she shall feel the loss of her mother.¹⁸⁹

Today the independent chapel is opened¹⁹⁰

September 12th I came into Town with M^r Davies – The New Police Magistrate¹⁹¹ is arrived – 3 years today since we embarked for this colony – ...

October 7th On the 5th (after violent persuasions) I was allowed to depart in peace to M^r Sinclair's¹⁹² dance – everybody said “they did not expect the pleasure of meeting me there” – a genteel way of telling me I should have staid at home! – perhaps I should! had it be “I wish” etc instead of “You shall not” – the dance would have gone out of my head – People think it strange that I like a party better than home – They cannot see my heart – or they would soon find out the

¹⁸⁶ Although that comes at the cost of peace (French = coûte).

¹⁸⁷ Lake River property near Longford of Joseph Archer (1795-1853) brother of Thomas Archer (q.v.), arrived VDL 1821, married Elinor Blinfield 1824. At Panshanger Joseph built a freestone single-storey mansion in the “simplest Grecian style” in 1835 (Robertson 157).

¹⁸⁸ Not identified.

¹⁸⁹ Hannah, wife of William Briggs (q.v.) and sister of Andrew Baxter, reportedly died on 21 Aug. from “ossification of the heart” (19 Sep. 1837). Maria, b. 1829, Hannah's daughter and AB's niece was only nine when her mother died.

¹⁹⁰ The *LA* reports that this chapel was opened on 6 Sep. 1837 (7 Sep. 1837). An earlier edition of this paper informed that an allotment had been granted in Tamar St for erection of this chapel and advised that subscriptions were being collected (30 June 1836). The completed project comprised a schoolroom and residence as well as the chapel, all of which were constructed for a total cost of £2100 (*LA* Sep. 1837). The government contributed £1000 and the balance was raised from subscription.

¹⁹¹ Captain D'Arcy Wentworth (1796-1861), late of the 63rd Regiment, son of Dr D'Arcy Wentworth (1762-1827), and brother of prominent explorer and barrister William Charles Wentworth (1790-1872). He was a popular choice for the position of magistrate.

¹⁹² John Sinclair, a local businessman, lived at “Clairville” between Evandale and Launceston. The property was granted to him as a reward for shooting a “notorious bushranger.” The original house was a single-storey colonial style building with French windows and a long colonnaded verandah (Robertson 219).

reason! N'importe, je ne serai jamais heureuse – la vie a pour moi peu de charmes!¹⁹³ and it is all the better as I don't think I shall be long for this world – & I shall feel the less reluctance in quitting it! – finished Salathiel¹⁹⁴ – I feel very ill this morning – How much I dread the summer – I do suffer so much from the heat –

I forgot to mention that on the 26th of last month – I had a dear letter from my beloved brother dated January 1st/37 –

October 16th Answered dear William's letter – returned last evening from "Gaddesden",¹⁹⁵ [...]

December 3rd How much have I suffered since I last wrote in my journal¹⁹⁶ – I'm afraid a complaint has now taken root which will never leave me – C'est ma faute¹⁹⁷ – I went to see M^r C Friend¹⁹⁸ yesterday – Poor fellow he looks miserably ill – Captain O'Hara is in town again – il a l'au bien jaloux – mais n'importe – je le deteste¹⁹⁹ – Somehow I cannot write here tonight – I feel rather prosy too – if I were sure that this would be seen by no one – how I could tell all my + + —

²⁰⁰ ...

December 17th I have been for two days at Allan Vale²⁰¹ – tomorrow I spend at Elphin²⁰² The C. G.²⁰³ has been deciphered – it was my intention it never should have been – what a fool I was to put it – altho' I did & do mean it! ...

December 25th Monday & Christmas-day – We were to have dined at the Mess – but at ½ past 6 o'clock – the rain came down nicely – of course we were obliged to stay at home – Home! Did I

¹⁹³ Never mind, I will never be happy – life for me has little charm (French).

¹⁹⁴ George Croly, *Salathiel. A Story of the Past, the Present and the Future*, 3 vols (London: Colborn, 1828).

¹⁹⁵ Property near Campbell Town, known as "Quorn Hall" after purchase by Walter Glass Cheine in 1837.

¹⁹⁶ After the entry of 16 Oct. AB made one entry in Oct. and two in Nov. and filled 1½ journal pages.

¹⁹⁷ It is my fault (French).

¹⁹⁸ Captain Charles Friend (1812-1893), captain in the Mercantile Marine and nephew of the Lt. Matthew Curling Friend. He was owner and master of the *Rebecca* in the 1830s, Chief Constable at Launceston 1836-1837, and an employee of the Customs Department in Hobart in the 1850s.

¹⁹⁹ He has been very jealous – but it doesn't matter – I detest him (French). Later journal entries in which AB comments that O'Hara had "ventured too far" (23 Apr. 1841) and that she had to check him in his "foolish, wicked feelings" (10 Jan. 1849) suggest that he had sought a level of sexual involvement with her.

²⁰⁰ AB inserts hieroglyphic code which when deciphered reads: "I feel what a neglected wife is sure to feel sooner or later" (See Fig. 10).

²⁰¹ Allan family home on the eastern banks of the Tamar, near Launceston.

²⁰² The Dry family home on the outskirts of Launceston.

²⁰³ Abbreviation for the hieroglyphic code used previously. It is not clear whether it is Baxter or someone else (possibly Dry) who deciphered the code.

say? how words are some times perverted! Well! I never had; so miserable a Christmas Day –
 I.I.F.H. — B.M.N.A.C. (E.)²⁰⁴ it was a sultry day – How well do I remember this day in England
 – I was with all my friends – who love me – who looked upon me as the soul of the family group -
 – & so I was – For then I was happy – But now! I’m separated from all those dear ones – & tied to
 a man who cares for me as much as I do for myself – God knows that is little – He is sometimes
 fond of me for a day or so – (that is when I’m ill & he fancies I shall die before he gets my money
 –) No one can conceive what I’ve put up with at different times – from the liveliest girl – I’ve
 become the most [illegible word] woman & just turned 21 – a pleasant prospect for me – but I’ve
 determined on going home, if things don’t alter. ...

December 30th I went to see Maria on Thursday & returned on Friday – j’ai souffert! mais un peu
 agréablement – Il m’aime! et moi je l’adore! il ne faut pas qu’il le sache – c’est bien méchant –
 mais que peut-on faire? quand on aime²⁰⁵ – G.N.P.P.A.F — e. (F.) Maria’s baby is grown a very
 nice child – how I should idolize a child if I loved the father –

December 31st New Year’s Eve – I hope next year may prove to me a happier one than the last –
January 1st – 1838 – Monday – the first day of the year – How many I wonder shall I number in
 this “vale of tears”²⁰⁶ – with my present prospects, I should hope not many – I went the other day
 to see poor Bridget Moore²⁰⁷ – she is indeed an object of pity & misery – only 19 – & looks fully
 30 – she is positively starved – & her poor little child – so pretty & cheerful – God knows what
 she will do with her next – which she expects in about 2 months – when I see such pitiable
 creatures, it is then I wish for wealth – it would be my greatest delight to satisfy the wants of the
 needy – but if I had it now, Baxter is too selfish to let it be used for any but himself – ...

²⁰⁴ Some of these letters are difficult to distinguish. The “E” in parenthesis denotes that abbreviations are in English.

²⁰⁵ I have suffered! but a little pleasantly – he loves me! and I adore him! he must not be allowed to find out – it’s quite evil – but what can one do? when one loves (French).

²⁰⁶ Religious phrase alluding to earthly sorrows that are left behind when heaven is entered. The phrase appears in the Anglican version of “Hail Holy Queen,” the final prayer of the Roman Catholic rosary.

²⁰⁷ Not identified.

January 5th Mess^{rs} Youl & Dry called this morning – it does me good to see his D. F. – /eng – Maria came into town on the 2nd – I have made her such a pretty bonnet – what pain I did suffer yesterday – I shall never be quite well again –

January 7th today went to hear M^r Lilley²⁰⁸ preach at the Kirk – afterwards went up to D^r Landale's – Mess^{rs} M^cIntosh,²⁰⁹ Dry & Sinclair were there – Miss Dowling²¹⁰ came in – ²¹¹

Poor M^r Dry looks very unwell from his fall yesterday – ... M^{rs} Wellman called today to know if I had heard anything of Major W— I could not wish her to know all that I do, respecting ce Monsieur²¹² – finished the three first number of M^r Pickwick²¹³ – I hope M^r R. Dry will feel well enough to come into town tomorrow – I shall then have three more – I shall walk out to Elphin tomorrow I think ... M^r & Miss Allan were in town yesterday – & Jessie the day before – I could all most fancy my present existence a dream – it's too pleasing for reality – I think I'm going mad – writing such trash!

January 8th Poor M^r Dry has felt his fall from the gig very much – he was blooded – but drove out to Clarendon today – we thought Captⁿ Tew would have had a Pic-Nic tomorrow – but I fancy not now – the Friends were distressed today – my tin box²¹⁴ is come home – so now, my journal – you & I will have plenty of secrets – I shall walk to the Basin tomorrow – what a relief it is to put your thoughts on paper! what an invention is writing!

The *Louisa Campbell* is up the River with M^r & M^{rs} Welsh – I'm really glad – for the Allans were so anxious for their arrival²¹⁵ – ...

²⁰⁸ John Lillie (1806-1866), Presbyterian minister, arrived VDL 1837. Lillie is described as an effective speaker and administrator. He successfully campaigned for multi-establishment of churches in the colony and was a staunch advocate for non-denominational schools.

²⁰⁹ Not identified.

²¹⁰ Presumably one of the daughters of Baptist minister, Henry Dowling (1780-1869).

²¹¹ In hieroglyphic code AB writes: "Dear Richard looks so ill! God bless him" (See Figure 11).

²¹² This gentlemen (French).

²¹³ Charles Dickens' *The Pickwick Papers* was published serially by Chapman and Hall (London) between Apr. 1836 and Nov. 1837. Launceston printer, Henry Dowling published an unauthorised serial version of *The Pickwick Papers* in Launceston from June 1838 (Craig 1).

²¹⁴ A later journal entry suggests that this was a small box in which AB kept her current journal volume (see entry 31 Jan. 1849).

²¹⁵ Margaret Welsh, daughter of George Allan, together with her husband and family, was a passenger on the *Ann* when it sailed to London in Feb. 1836 (see note for 10 Feb. 1836). The family returned on the *Louisa Campbell*, a 272-ton barque commanded by J. M. Buckley, arrived Launceston 9 Jan. from London.

January 9th Had letters from M^{rs} Reid & Eliza – the letter mentions my Uncle’s wedding²¹⁶ may he be happy is my wish from my heart! – walked to the first Basin — — Baxter is at M^r Henty’s – ...

January 12th Today Baxter went out hunting – & M^r Youl called & wished me to go & see the girls at the Cornwall²¹⁷ – When I went I found Mess^{rs} Connolly & Dry – the latter looks so very ill – while I was here Supple²¹⁸ came up with M^r B Baxter²¹⁹ – I immediately sent out for Baxter, but the gentleman was not to be found – Mr Baxter brought sad news with him – we may expect to be ordered away in a fortnight – ~~if only~~ Oh! it will seem only tomorrow to me! – How can I go away? & leave what I love better than all the world – it is only when we are about to leave – that we feel how much we truly love – [words under erasure] and my heart tells me I wrong his dear[,] dear nature! for he could not do anything ungenerous – ...

Mr Baxter says I’m much taller & thinner – and so I’m likely to remain – Gracious powers! India in perspective – I’d go tho’, & be happy, if I should see him there in about 18 months – Maria Kemp²²⁰ is arrived in N. S. Wales – I think I shall plunge into the very height of dissipation when I get to Sydney, that will finish me soon – what have I to live for?

1st a husband that loves himself better than me – & money better than all –

2nd India to broil me to death –

3rd For my new Aunt to laugh at, for having done me out of my money –

Pleasant things these to live for? –

January 14th Sunday So terribly warm – went to church – & afterwards spent a happy day at Elphin – God knows what I shall do with myself in Sydney – M^{rs} Hazard is my only friend there – & this town is like my second home – ... I do feel so miserable – I asked for No. 8 of the

²¹⁶ AB’s uncle, previously a bachelor, reportedly married “his mistress, a girl of 19 years old” (28 Apr. 1838).

²¹⁷ The Cornwall Hotel in Cameron St was built by John Pascoe Fawkner in 1824. It was the first two-storey building in Launceston and by 1835 was Launceston’s “social and financial centre” (Cox 49).

²¹⁸ John Supple, batman (personal servant) to Andrew Baxter.

²¹⁹ Benjamin Baxter (q.v.) visiting from Melbourne where he had just been appointed Clerk to the Bench (Frost, *Face* 307).

²²⁰ Maria Kemp (q.v.), AB’s second cousin and wife of William Kemp (1782-1856), arrived Sydney on *Asia* 2 Dec. 1837. Benjamin Baxter likely brought this information.

Pickwick papers – & instead of offering to bring it – he looked for it & wished to find it – so it was no joke when he said he intended cutting me – No one shall do that tho’ – I’ll be the first – I’ll not care for feeling on the occasion –

January 17th Sir John & Lady Franklin arrived on Monday last²²¹ – dinners every day – left our cards– ...

January 18th ... The Major²²² very kindly offered me his quarters in Sydney – & said he would take care that if we were to go up in two detachments Baxter should go with the first – How kind! Heavens! when I dare think of going, how my heart aches – what would I not give to be allowed to stay quietly with those I love – No! it is not to be –

Oh! how happily two beings might be in this world if they loved – what need they care for the frowns of the world – Are they not the world to each other – and on dit²²³ that such couples do live – would that I were of the number – William said rightly to me one day “dear Annie whatever you love is allways unhappy” –

How people (the world) mistake me – they fancy me the merriest, happiest creature possible – I have indeed command over my feelings sometimes – but now I’m getting ill really low in body & mind – my side is so very bad – that I can’t allways be on my guard – tonight on hearing Mary Wellman²²⁴ play “Ah! Perdona!”²²⁵ my heart seemed bursting & I could not have helped crying if a multitude had been looking on –...

January 24th Baxter went out hunting last night – & this morning at 8 o’clock – M^r Dry called for me – we got out to N. Plains in good time – ...

January 25th Mess^{rs} Davies & Dry went into town at an early hour this morning – & they returned at ½ past 5 – to dinner – M^r Dry brought me the news that we were to proceed to Sydney immediately – well! if we are to go – why it’s all for the better that it should be soon – for I don’t

²²¹ The *LA* reports “Sir John Franklin arrived on Monday morning [15 Jan.], accompanied by Lady Franklin” (18 Jan. 1838).

²²² Thomas Ryan (see entry 20 Apr. 1835).

²²³ Literally “one says” but colloquially “they say” or “people say” (French).

²²⁴ Daughter of Harvey Welman (q.v.)

²²⁵ “Ah Perdona Al Primo Alfetto” duet from Mozart’s opera *La Clemenza de Tito* (*The Clemency of Tito*) first performed in 1791.

think I could put up with suspense much longer – when I begin to imagine my parting from this Island – I almost feel inclined to alter my opinion – and prefer suspense to the terrible reality –
...

January 29th This morning we started for the Westward²²⁶ – M^r Davies drove us – we called & dined at “Hagley”²²⁷ – both that farm and “Belle Vue”²²⁸ are beautiful – I would like very much to live up there – or near – I’m afraid it is the neighbours that tempt me up there – for really as to a spot to live in – I prefer the 1st Basin to any other – it is so endeared to me lately from circumstances –

30th I [words under erasure] to resume my journey – we left Hagley at about 4 o’clock & went as far as M^r Martin’s – a very pretty place indeed²²⁹ – I found them kind, hospitable people – M^{rs} Martin is good-looking a pretty side face – the lower part so like Mama’s – Miss Exton²³⁰ exceedingly plain – & sarcastic – M^r Martin – quite an English farmer – and M^r Paulet²³¹ very pleasant – only I caught him staring at me – to see if his eyes did not deceive him – when he saw me – for he told M^{rs} Martin, before I came, that he wished to see me, as he had heard me spoken of in several places – she did not say – what he had heard of me – but I presume its no good – I don’t mind what people think of me – I may be called a flirt – but I’m not – that I will talk & laugh with people there’s no doubt – but I’m more of a Coquette than an english flirt –

There is only one person I care about – & I know that one will not fancy any wrong in me – je braverai le monde tant pis²³² – but joking apart – do I not deserve that the world should talk?

²²⁶ The settled area between Launceston and Deloraine, 30 miles (48km) from Launceston.

²²⁷ Hagley House is a two-storey Georgian mansion, built on 2,000 acres (809.4 hec.) originally granted to William Lyttleton. Construction of the house is said to have begun in 1826 but the house was incomplete when the Lyttletons left the colony in 1836. The house was purchased by Dr James Richardson. The property is located 1 mile (2km) south east of the present town of Hagley.

²²⁸ The original homestead of Quamby the 2,000 acre (809.4 hec.) property adjacent to Hagley House, purchased by Richard Dry senior in 1828 and renamed Quamby. Dry built a new homestead to replace the original house.

²²⁹ Reverend Samuel Martin (?1806-1860) purchased this substantial property shortly after his arrival in 1833; he named it Exton, the family name of his wife Sarah (1812-1885).

²³⁰ Possibly Elizabeth Exton (1815-1816).

²³¹ Frederick Armand Powlett (1811-1865), arrived VDL 1837 with Sir John Franklin, moved to the Port Phillip District in 1838 where he developed pastoral interests and became a respected member of the community. AB was reacquainted with him in 1844 while travelling between Sydney and Port Phillip, remarking at the time: “he is grown stouter, but his manners are just as pleasing as ever” (Apr. 1844).

²³² I will defy the world (French).

Yes – until lately, I had some strength of mind – but now when it is required – I find myself minus – on dit – if you wish[,] to shun a danger – Fly! but now I'll argue a little – I am a soldier – & it's well known a soldier never should run from danger – ...

January 31st We returned home this day – we first called at Hagley – where we found a letter from M^r Dry – we luncheoned – and then started for M^{rs} Ashburner's²³³ – where we dined – we left Sillwood at 5 o'clock – and reached home at ½ past 7 – I was so glad to get back – for I have been in so much pain since I left –

February 3rd My cold is very bad today – I feel ill altogether – Baxter was to have come out this evening – ... – M^r Davies intends giving me a Pic-Nic before I leave this Island – I've been out here for 11 days – I must go into town again on Monday or Tuesday – I wonder if M^r Dry will come to church tomorrow – Yet why should he come here, when his own is so much nearer – ...

February 5th Today His Excellency & family suite etc go to Woolmer's²³⁴ – M^r Davies dines there – ...

February 7th My own darling's birthday – God bless him – he is 25 today – What happiness it would afford me to be with him – No one ever loved me as he did & does – & I never did love any body as I do him – ... – M^r Davies says M^r R Dry told him Baxter would be out tomorrow – it is my wedding day – we have been married 4 years tomorrow – it seems nearly 8 – ...

February 9th This morning M^r Davies, M^r Hamilton²³⁵ and myself came into town – I found Baxter looking as cross as ever – after breakfast he asked me when I intended leaving town again – instead of saying he was glad to see me home – the time is that I find any house more home than my own – went up to see M^{rs} C. Friend –

²³³ Hester Maria (1799-1838), wife of William Page Ashburner, Captain East India Company, arrived VDL 1827, granted 2,560 acres (1036 hec.), established Sillwood where they built a modest home.

²³⁴ The *LA* reports that the "Lieutenant-Governor left Launceston for the seat of Government on Monday last, accompanied by Lady Franklin and suite. His Excellency was to pass the Monday night at Mr Archer's, Woolmers and the following night at Mr Kermode's Mona Vale" (8 Feb. 1838).

²³⁵ Mr E.D.F. Hamilton. Other entries indicate that he was Rowland Davies's cousin and that he had recently arrived from London.

February 11th Went to church – Nobody there – excepting in our pew – which was crowded with snobs – M^{rs} Friend²³⁶ spent the day with me –

February Monday 12th M^r R Dry called this morning – He reminded me of showing him this journal – I’ll not read it over for I’m sure I’ve put some shocking trash in it – and if I perused it in my cooler moments I might not like anybody to see it – and a promise is sacred – what a nice pen I’ve been writing with – This evening M^r & M^{rs} Landale, M^r & Miss Dry & I went for a ride ... Je pas si heureuse de le voir ce matin que je n’ai fin dire tous – que je voudrais – il viendra demain²³⁷ – How I wish for that time – Baxter went to the Barracks – He has not spent one evening at home since I returned – c’est egal²³⁸ – I’m better alone

February 13th ~~St Valentine’s Day~~ M^r R Dry called and brought me two dog collars – Baxter came in soon after and I don’t think I ever shall have another chat with him again – [...]

February 15th M^{rs} Friend & Margaret²³⁹ called and sat three hours with me – Cupid was here when they came He is to bring his sisters into town on Tuesday & I return with them on Wednesday –

February 16th Last evening I passed, as usual, alone – Baxter was on duty & I thought of course that when he left this, he had gone to the Barracks but this morning I found out he was on board the *Louisa Campbell* – he is becoming what he was before marriage – and what gentlemen call “a pleasant fellow”²⁴⁰ – smokes all day – drinks at night, & can sing as long as any of them – ...

February 18th Went to church – and altho’ the church was crowded nobody was there – M^{rs} Badley²⁴¹ left this world last even^g – We must all sooner or later pay the debt of nature – she will be and is much regretted – I love old age – especially when it is borne with cheerfulness – It gives me true pleasure to see a family on Christmas-day assembled with a venerable Grandfather &

²³⁶ Frances Charlotte, née Sutton (b. 1810), wife of Charles Friend. They were married in 1834, a son Frederick Robert was born in 1835 and a daughter Ann Maria in 1836. In total the couple had 5 sons and 4 daughters.

²³⁷ An approximate translation of this passage is: I not so happy to see him this morning that I have not [finished] said all I would like – he will come tomorrow (French). However it is likely that some words have been omitted.

²³⁸ I don’t care, it’s all the same to me (French).

²³⁹ Margaret Sybilla McLeod (1815-1889), daughter of Catherine McLeod (q.v.) often referred to as Margery in the journal, presumably visiting from Sydney.

²⁴⁰ AB’s phraseology resonates with Lord Chesterfield’s definition of a “*man of pleasure* in the vulgar acceptation of that phrase [as] only a beastly drunkard, an abandoned whore-master, and a profligate swearer and curser” (qtd. in Vickery 217).

²⁴¹ Elizabeth Badley (1771-1838), widow of John Badley, late of Jamaica.

Grand-Mother in a fauteuil²⁴² – watching the gambols of their children’s children! – I call to mind dear M^{rs} Douglas [&] Willan²⁴³ – what a merry circle we were then – dear ~~Douglas~~ William Douglas & I were allways the merriest too! He is dead and I am –

Major Ryan called in – Coming from church we met M^r R. Dry – he is quite tamed – it’s rather an improvement – [...]

February 20th Came out to “Symmons Plains” – with M^r Youl & daughter Jane. In the morning the former & M^r Dry called & sat for some time – we did not leave town until 5 o’clock – ... [...]

February 25th ... – I suppose Baxter will be out today – I don’t feel in good spirits yesterday or today – at last I have my Italian dictionary – My daughter Jane was accusing me of taking away the young Ladies beaux – I’m sure I don’t mean to do it – I don’t care for their beaux – [...]

February 28th Today M^r Youl & I went to the Macquarie²⁴⁴ – I rode Tally-ho – Going into town on tomorrow – [...]

March 1st Today I went to see M^{rs} C. Friend – ... – M^r R. Dry rode today – the races were well attended & it was a pleasant day – Baxter dined at D^r Landale’s and I spent the evening with M^{rs} Landale, who has not been able to leave her room for some days, owing to indisposition – I returned early – Baxter went on board the *Louisa Campbell* – & did not come home until ½ past 3 –

March 2nd M^r Cheine took me to the Races again²⁴⁵ – but I must not forget to mention that both the Misses Dry were with me – a fine day & some very good races – M^r R Dry called this morning – the Race Ball takes place tonight²⁴⁶ – I should so much like to have gone, but my Master would not let me – and as he is snoring in bed! – perhaps I’m as well at home – miserable by myself – M^r

²⁴² Armchair (French).

²⁴³ Willan Douglas and his mother were relatives of AB’s school friend Cressy Douglas.

²⁴⁴ The Macquarie River arises in the east of VDL at Tooms Lake and Lake Leake and flows north-west through the Youl property at Symmons Plains. It is joined by the Elizabeth and Lake River before flowing into the South Esk at Longford.

²⁴⁵ Richard Dry, Thomas Bryant, Thomas Henty, Michael Connolly, Alexander Cheine were the stewards for this meeting and George Horne was the secretary. The *LA* reports that “a commodious Stand will be erected for the convenience of ladies and gentlemen desirous of witnessing the sports alongside the Judges Stand – Applications for tickets to be made to Stewards only” (15 Feb. 1838).

²⁴⁶ This event is advertised in *LA* (1 Mar. 1838): “A Race Ball will be held on FRIDAY, the second proximo. Tickets 2 Guineas each, (to admit one gentlemen and two ladies,) to be had during the race week, of the Stewards, at the Stationary Warehouse, Brisbane St. Between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m.”

Allan came & wished me to go with them – and M^r Youl too – but it was no use – ... How I do daily thank God I've no children – nothing to claim my affection – I'm in my old low spirits now – & I really think I'm the happier – tomorrow I'll go to the 1st Basin – I wish I knew when I shall get William's letter about my going to Canada²⁴⁷ – I'm wretched here & yet I should be worse to go home – my Uncle married! and I'm so altered – How I would like to defy the world & do that which my inmost wishes dictate – No! it would be improper in the world's eyes & I must go on miserably to the end of the chapter – It is so repulsive to a woman with any feeling to put up with what I do – yet nobody shall know it – ... [...]

March 7th Colonel Hope²⁴⁸ is to be here tomorrow – on the day before yesterday poor M^{rs} Ashburner died – what a dreadful loss she [word under erasure] will be to her family – 11 young children left without a Mother!²⁴⁹

March 8th This morning Colonel Hope reviewed our horse before my house – M^{rs} Wellman came down to see them – Mess^{rs} McIntosh & R. Dry were here too – In the evening I went for a ride with Miss Dry – Baxter dined at the Mess – I spent the evening with M^{rs} Wellman – how exquisitely she does play – wrote to dear Harry today – ...

March 9th M^r R. Dry called this morning and brought me Byron²⁵⁰ – I went to see M^{rs} C. Friend – and in the evening I took six of my dogs to the 1st Basin – remained there some time – I really should have gone to see poor Bridget – but I was so very tired – Baxter is dining at M^r Cheyne's²⁵¹ – tomorrow I believe he intends going out to hunt – ... – the Cricket match does not

²⁴⁷ William's service record indicates that he was in Canada from 18 May 1835 until 15 Nov. 1840.

²⁴⁸ Commanding officer of the 21st Foot, soon to return to England to rejoin the Rifle Brigade (*LA* Mar. 1838).

²⁴⁹ "On the 4th instant, at Sillwood, Hester Maria, the wife of William Page Ashburner, Esq" (*LA* 15 Mar. 1838).

²⁵⁰ Works of George Gordon Noel Byron, sixth Baron Byron (1788-1824), possibly a work such as *The Complete Works of Lord Byron: With a Biographical and Critical Notice by J.W. Lake*, 7 vols. (Paris: Didot, 1825) as in subsequent entries AB mentions reading "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage" and "Don Juan."

²⁵¹ Alexander Cheyne (1785-1858), a Royal Engineer before resigning his commission in 1833, arrived in Hobart Town from Swan River in Dec. 1835, and was appointed Director-General of Roads soon after arrival, becoming Director of the newly created Department of Public Works in 1838. He was forced to resign from this position amid controversy in 1841 and was declared bankrupt in 1844. In Denison's administration he was Town Surveyor for a time and later the surveyor for the main road between Launceston and Hobart Town. In the late 1830s he was supervising construction of a bridge across the South Esk at Perth.

take place until Saturday²⁵² – so we shall not go out to “Symmon’s Plains” – I believe it is nearly sure that we shall go to the Cape instead of India – I care very little which it is – ...

March 10th ... – Baxter is gone out hunting and my little Ada²⁵³ is gone too – for the 1st time – in the afternoon Mess^{rs} Dry & McIntosh called – ... Reading “Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage”²⁵⁴ again – and it seems quite new – one may read a good work over and over again and not feel the least tired of it – I almost wish I were a witch to decipher some notes – How much I would like to be clever – what pride we take in looking well externally – how much more admirable is inward perfection! But I’ve no person who takes delight in reading near me – and I cannot do any-thing solus – altho’ I delight in solitude – How ready we always are to find an excuse – The pigeon match took place today – Tomorrow the cricket-match at Symmon’s Plains –Margery²⁵⁵ called today –

March 11th This morning I got 3 Nos of Pickwick – and a knife given me for my nails – ...

March 12th Went to church altho’ I felt ill – walked back with Miss Dry – I’m so much afraid of my old complaint coming again – I expect Baxter is going to George’s River²⁵⁶ for a fortnight – and I intend going part of the time to Allan Vale – finished my letters to Harry & M^{rs} Reid – I wonder if ever I shall go where those letters are going – why should I wish to – I should not be happy there – Of course I need not expect any money from my Uncle now – as most likely he will have children of his own to leave it to – Thank God I’ve no child at present – How unhappy it would make me to think of leaving it to an Uncle or Aunt to take charge of – and then, if that relation choose to marry my poor child might take care of itself – people don’t think of these things when they bring little helpless creatures into the world of misery – I call it wicked – saying Providence will take care of them!– and leaving them to starve –

²⁵² Played on Saturday 10 Mar. 1838 “on the estate of James Youl, Esq. at Symmons Plains, between eleven gentlemen of Campbell Town and eleven of Launceston, in which the latter were successful” (LA 15 Mar. 1838).

²⁵³ A greyhound given to AB by Richard Dry; a journal entry for 17 Jan. 1850 indicates that Ada was born in 1835.

²⁵⁴ Byron’s *Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage*, a poem of four cantos, the first two of which were published in 1812, following his return from a European tour between 1809 and 1811, while the second two were published in 1818 following his separation from his wife.

²⁵⁵ Margaret Sybilla McLeod (1815-1889), daughter of Donald and Catherine McLeod (q.v.), remained AB’s good friend for many years.

²⁵⁶ Presumably Baxter was going to the military station at George Town.

March 13th This day year we set out for our delightful trip to Ben Lomond – today M^{rs} Landale gave a very pleasant Pic-Nic to the 1st Basin – what a sweet spot it is!

March 16th Today we went out to M^r Sinclair's to dine – ... – in the morning we went down to M^{rs} Thos Henty's – what a dear old couple they are!²⁵⁷ called at Allan Vale coming back – yesterday – [...]

April 3rd M^{rs} and Miss Allan²⁵⁸ called this morning – today the Cricket match takes place at Perth²⁵⁹ – M^r Dry called to ask me if I would ride out? I consented – as he said Jessie could not go if I did not – and he seemed anxious for her to go – M^r Cheine called in the afternoon – upon my word, he is a nice creature – If I had only known he was at home, I would have sent to ask him to drive me out – [...]

April 6th This morning Jessie and I took our walk as usual, but recollecting that a Court Martial took place at 8 – We got into a cart to come home – Baxter was gone when I returned – I called on M^{rs} T. Archer – & she asked me to make some calls with her – we went & just returning home when Mr Dry drove across the square & so I got up behind & went for a drive – He did²⁶⁰ not think that I observed him and Miss Youl laugh whenever he jolted us behind – I'll not trouble the gentleman with my company again – I don't need a second hint! – and that's the reason I would not go to Elphin – much as I should have liked to see Miss Dry. All day has this beautiful verse of Byron's been haunting me –

There is many a pang to pursue me:

They may crush but they [words under erasure] shall not contemn,²⁶¹

They may torture – but cannot subdue me –

²⁵⁷ Thomas Henty (1775) and his wife Frances Elizabeth, née Hopkins (1778-1848), arrived VDL 1832 to join their son James (see entry 3 Aug. 1837). They lived first at Cormiston on the west Tamar and later at Red Hill.

²⁵⁸ Isabella, sister of Jessie Allan (q.v.) and her mother.

²⁵⁹ The return match to the one played on 10 Mar. 1838. The Launceston players were again victorious. The teams comprised prominent citizens from both districts, most of whom were known to AB: Charles Hazlewood, James Winter, John Archer and Charles, Edward, and William Henty were among the Launceston players while Edward and Richard Willis, John Abbott, George and Joseph Penny played for Campbell Town (LA 5 Apr. 1838).

²⁶⁰ A page of the journal has been torn out. Pen markings on the remnants of the removed page suggest it was written on and then torn out.

²⁶¹ "Shall not contemn" is inserted as superscript above the crossed out words.

‘Tis of thee that I think – not of them!²⁶²

M^r E. Willis²⁶³ called to ask me to go for a ride – but I could not, as Baxter wished me not – and I know what would afterwards come upon me! M^r Dry & Jessie came down on horseback – and M^r Dry kindly offered Baxter his horse – because if I went, he would not – of course this was the reason, for when he found I was not going, nothing prevented him – what a pleasant evening I had – God bless me! I think Baxter takes the right means to make me love him – he’s so very kind!!

8 o’clock striking! I’m off to bed – nothing now for me left – even my dreams must be altered!

April 8th Jessie & I went to church – M^r Airey²⁶⁴ & M^r Sinclair returned home with us – My better half started this morning for George’s River – We learned last night, that a revolution in Canada had taken place²⁶⁵ – How I hope my own dear brother will escape any hurt – he’s allways in the wars poor fellow! domestic and foreign – ... [...]

April 12th We were prevented going out to Clair Ville from various reasons – one prominent one was – M^{rs} Welsh gave to her lord and master a son²⁶⁶ – Upon my word people take it as easy having children as going to their breakfast – They are welcome to their innocent mirth! [...]

April 15th Captⁿ & M^{rs} Miller²⁶⁷ came down with M^r Welsh – she is rather nice looking – I’ve been reading some of my themes – they recall pleasant & unpleasant occurrences – How often when I’m far far away, shall I think of this country with feelings of the warmest nature – and think how gradually those feelings have taken possession of my heart – when I left England I fully made up

²⁶² From “Stanzas to Augusta.”

²⁶³ Edward Willis (1816-1895) was the son of pastoralists, Richard and Ann Willis. He arrived VDL in 1823 with his family and in the 1830s he worked at “Wanstead,” his father’s substantial property near Campbell Town. In 1840 he married Catherine, daughter of Capt. Charles Swanston and encouraged by Swanston, Willis left VDL in the 1840s and focused his activities in Port Phillip. He was active in the Geelong region as a community leader and pastoralist and was a committee member of the Melbourne Club in the 1840s (*ADB*; de Serville, *Port* 196, 209).

²⁶⁴ George Sherbrooke Airey, later a squatter and Commissioner of Crown Lands at Port Phillip, related to the family of the Hon. William Talbot, landowner of Malahide in VDL (de Serville, *Port* 171-72, 185).

²⁶⁵ In late 1837 settlers in Lower Canada (now Quebec) and Upper Canada (now Ontario) resorted to violence after the British Government failed to accede to demands for more representative government. The rebellion was quickly and easily crushed by British troops; however reforms occurred in the 1840s.

²⁶⁶ George Allan Welsh, third child of Margaret Pringle (née Allan) and Patricius William Welsh, was born on the “12th Instant” (*LA* 26 Apr. 1838).

²⁶⁷ Possibly Captain James Miller (b. c. 1775) late of the 40th Regiment and his wife, visitors from Hobart Town. Mrs Miller’s death is recorded at her residence in Campbell St. on 29 Dec. 1840 (*Courier* 5 Jan. 1841).

my mind never to like any person out of it – but I shall leave this with more regrets than even my own native land – with a constitution and prospects blighted! [...]

1st of May M^{rs} Thos Archer called & Maria went with her to the township²⁶⁸ – I preferred walking amongst the Wattles – Captⁿ & M^{rs} Smith²⁶⁹ were here when I returned – what fine eyes this lady has! – such piercers!! in the evening I had some English letters and one from M^r Smith and Jessie – Mama mentions several curious affairs – ... – I hope Mama will marry Captain Froggart²⁷⁰ – if she wishes it – I ca’n’t imagine a person marrying so many times “mai chacun a son goût”²⁷¹ – I know there is only one person I would marry – if I were single again – and I doubt if he would give me the chance – ...

May 3rd We yesterday went with M^{rs} Archer to Cressy to call on M^{rs} Toosey²⁷² – She is rather a plain woman of about 40 – too “at home” to be elite! – ... – I have written to M^r Briggs – and asked Margaret to take the letter for me – I hope somebody may come from town today – I don’t care who! – but I want to hear the news –

May 4th After wishing yesterday for anybody, somebody came – in the persons of D^r Richardson²⁷³ & M^r R Dry – they dined here and left soon after – we did not leave the house today for I was manufacturing a black bonnet for Maria – I hope to be in town on Saturday –

I forgot to mention Major M^cLeod’s death – poor old gentleman! – he died very suddenly and in Sydney – Margaret will feel his death more than any of them – she was his favourite – ...

May 6th Today Maria came with me to “Symmon’s Plains” – Miss Youl was as kind as ever to me – so that I shall persist in disbelieving anything they may say of her [...]

May 13th Five days have elapsed without my coming to my Journal – I have been very ill – they wished me to remain in bed – but I would not – thinking that I might see some persons to cheer

²⁶⁸ AB travelled to Norfolk Plains on 26 April.

²⁶⁹ Not identified.

²⁷⁰ AB never indicates whether or not this marriage took place.

²⁷¹ But each one to his own (French).

²⁷² Charlotte Septima (1804-1851), wife of James Denton Toosey (1801-1883), solicitor and pastoralist, married Apr. 1836 in England. They had one son James Denton b. 1838 at Longford.

²⁷³ Dr James Richardson, formerly of the 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards. Richardson married Eliza Dry (b.1811) in September 1838.

me – Heaven knows how much I need it! – I am so cross & ill-tempered – but I do suffer so much – yesterday M^r R Dry & M^r Youl called to see me – the latter remained a long time – but I soon tired the former –

My little Ada has been my principal companion – Dear Jessie has also been much with me – she is a kind soul –

May 14th Yesterday was a miserable day – so very wet – I had wished to hear the Bishop²⁷⁴ preach but could not venture out –

Today I went to see M^{rs} Wellman & M^{rs} Welsh, stayed some time at the latter's house – she has a delightful Piano – upon my return I found M^{rs} Weymouth²⁷⁵ & M^r R Davies²⁷⁶ here – Soon after M^r Frankland came in and sat for a long time – he is certainly what I said before the most delightful person I ever met – what a pity he is married to such an old-lady –

Whilst at M^{rs} Welsh's – M^r R Dry & Mary²⁷⁷ passed – Baxter tells me that Captⁿ Tew upon his arrival in Sydney, intends applying for leave to return home – and that he said he would be glad to chaperon me home – such an offer I shall not refuse – it will be the time to show whether I really love or only pretend – of course I had a struggle but when I put self on one side – I see what duty tells me! – and I will act up to it – I'm only afraid the slightest excuse will make me waver – [...]

May 17th Last night poor Mary met with a sad accident in the way of scalding both her feet very much – so I'm Betty²⁷⁸ for a time – and a worse time it could not have happened –

Baxter left this at 10 o'clock with M^r Grant²⁷⁹ to go hunting – in the afternoon M^r E Willis came and sat some time – I was so glad – for I had been crying my eyes out – and he mended my spirit a little – I am a miserable sinner – Yes! what would have given me pain some weeks ago –

²⁷⁴ William Grant Broughton (1788-1853), Bishop of Australia visited VDL after the colony had been made an archdeaconry in 1838, arrived Hobart Town 21 Apr. On Monday 14 May he was addressed by the local gentry at Government Cottage.

²⁷⁵ Presumably Mary Ann (née Salmon) (1796-1870), wife of William Weymouth (1788-1856), arrived in VDL 1835 and settled in Launceston. William was surgeon-superintendent on the female immigration ship *Charles Kerr*.

²⁷⁶ Not identified, unlikely to be Rev. Davies.

²⁷⁷ Not identified.

²⁷⁸ "Betty" is a colloquial term once used contemptuously to describe a man who occupies himself with household duties. In this respect AB's use is misplaced.

²⁷⁹ Not identified.

will now almost give me pleasure – viz: my removal from this – and yet what can I, shall I do away from that spot – ... Ah! no one can half conceive the horrors of an unhappy marriage – but those who experience it – daily – hourly – do I send up the most impious wishes – and the Being who hears them – why when I think a little – even He cannot have a worse opinion of me than I have of myself – if I had but some one who loved me – to be with me always – to tell me of my faults – But no! it has been my bad luck in life to meet with too much adulation – and when I've listened – and do listen to it – altho' I detest the persons who make use of it – still nature is so very very weak – that I sometimes catch myself thinking “Can all of this be flattery”? –

William – my own beloved brother! – it has been the magic of your dear image that has preserved me from even worse than I have already done – when I think of you – I know that one loves me – and no one knows how sincerely it is returned – [...]

May 24th Her Majesty's birthday – 19 today – poor girl! [...]

May 26th M^r R Dry called – he is going to Hobart Town – and Jessie is going home this evening – What shall I do with myself for three long weeks – Miss Allan is to be married on the 5th of June²⁸⁰ – finished the Last days of Pompeii²⁸¹ – M^{rs} Priaulx²⁸² brought herself and 9 youngsters to see me –

May 27th M^r R Dry gave me some very nice books today – which I shall indeed value – He starts tomorrow –

May 29th One day passed – –

May 30th This morning I have a note from Jessie – and such a row ensued [sic] – from today we live in a manner ~~single~~²⁸³ – and I shall go home as soon as possible – Maria & M^r Davies called in the afternoon –

Reading “Don Juan” – I must say I've read as bad – but never worse – but then Byron never expected Ladies would read it – [...]

²⁸⁰ Isabella, second daughter of George Allan, married John Baker on 5 June 1838.

²⁸¹ Edward Bulwer Lytton, *The Last Days of Pompeii* (Routledge, 1834).

²⁸² Amelia (née Hide) (1808-1853) was the wife of Henry Priaulx, a senior clerk of the Launceston Commissariat Office in the 1830s. The two were married in 1828 in London.

²⁸³ “Single” has been neatly crossed out.

June 1st This day 16 years Papa died and 17 years Grandpapa Hadden – I had the blues very badly – so I walked out to D^r Weymouth’s – I then called to see that unfortunate woman M^{rs} Turner²⁸⁴ – surely it’s an awful thing to see so young a woman giving way to drink, in the way she is – I hope she’ll take the advice I gave her to eat more!–

From there I went and sat with a poor man who is bed-ridden – then to M^{rs} M^cK’s – found out where M^r Gervis²⁸⁵ lived – I must go and see about sending his little ones to school – on my return home met M^{rs} & Miss Welsh²⁸⁶ – M^{rs} Miller, Miss Allan, Captⁿ Hume, and M^r Frazer²⁸⁷ – If there is not a smite between two of this party – I’m no judge!– M^r Grant dined with us, and we all went up to M^{rs} Welsh’s in the evening

I played all the quadrilles for them – and did not dance – I felt too wretched – and yet I heard two persons say what an animated, lively woman M^{rs} Baxter was – and let them think so – [...]

June 9th I’m waiting for the carriage to take me to the wedding at Allan Vale – Miss Allan little knows what a responsible state it is she is entering upon – None but those who have tried it, can – I’ve been married 4 years and ½ tomorrow – and am I a good wife? – can I love, honor and obey, as I promised? – No – but I’m glad to say that all are not like me! [...]

June 13th I was rather surprised with the route²⁸⁸ for Perth this afternoon – Baxter returned late this evening – Captⁿ Tew took coffee with us –

June 14th This morning Baxter & the men started – I proceed there on Tuesday – a fortnight is passed – a long fortnight indeed! and yet no return – I shall be gone by the third week – ... [...]

June 23rd This morning Mess^{rs} R Dry & Youl called but we were not up – they returned while we were at breakfast – M^r Bowen²⁸⁹ next – and M^r Sinclair and M^r Blackney²⁹⁰ – the latter is going to

²⁸⁴ Not identified.

²⁸⁵ Neither “Mrs McK” nor Mr Gervis are identified.

²⁸⁶ Possibly a sister of Mrs Welsh’s husband, Patricius.

²⁸⁷ Neither Captain Hume nor Mr Frazer are identified.

²⁸⁸ Military term which means: “the order to march.”

²⁸⁹ Not identified.

²⁹⁰ Charles Hugh Blackney, said to be related to the Talbots of Malahide and a business partner with George Airey. Member of the Melbourne Club in 1841. His father, Walter Blackney was a member of the British Parliament (de Serville, *Port* 199).

Port Phillip tomorrow, I'm sorry to say – M^r Dry and M^r Cheine came again and the former drove me to Perth – where I now am. It is a lovely spot – if you can only have contentment with you – but I've not much of this just now – M^{rs} Salmon is very kind and I shall see Launceston pretty often – so here I am, and as the Judge says to a condemned criminal “The Lord have mercy on me” – [...]

June 26th We returned early from D^r Salmon's, owing to my bad cold – On Wednesday last I had a long letter from M^r Briggs, Margery, Mama & George²⁹¹ – M^r Briggs tells me that Baxter's money is lodged for his Company²⁹² – Instead of acting on this news – he seems perfectly bewildered and intends waiting to hear from my Uncle – so that it will be 8 or 9 months before he has his promotion – One feels miserably lazy in the country. I think – at least I do! –

Baxter is gone into town this morning to a Court Martial – How I did enjoy myself at M^{rs} Reiby's the other evening –

June 27th I went for a long walk by myself and sat for some time opposite to such a pretty little cataract – I was thinking how quiet and beautiful all Nature seemed – except her Masterpiece – Man – and oh! how far from quiet was I! [...]

July 3rd Today I had a visitation from the delightful creature! – he remained nearly all day – Baxter returned early today – [...]

July 8th Sunday I have returned from town with my spirits damped my heart breaking – I went into town to a dance – I was unwell when I went – but I had a note that would have taken me to the world's end – 'Tis a pity such a time should have been taken to show off the altered feelings of one, that I madly & blindly loved –

It served me rightly – I ought never to have trusted again to mortal – I asked for some papers to be returned – and they were brought by the one most concerned in them – after me – Some mistake has arisen – I think some excuse was only [word under erasure] wanted – the distance to the new friend's is but short – therefore convenient – M^r Youl brought me out – and a

²⁹¹ George Sinclair, son of AB's mother and her second husband. An entry for Dec. 1843 in which AB refers to him as an “unfortunate boy” perhaps indicates he was disabled in some way (see also Frost, *Face* 309).

²⁹² AB's uncle James Hadden provided the money for Andrew Baxter to purchase his captaincy.

letter awaited me from my Uncle – to advise our going to India²⁹³ – with what pleasure I shall go – now that my last – my only hope is dashed from me –

July 9th M^{rs} Salmon spent the day with me & D^r Salmon came in to dinner – I had a letter from town today – I make no comments – it has partly roused me from the stupor I was in –

July 10th I answered the letter & put it into the post office myself – M^{rs} Salmon came home with me – M^r Dry called for a minute – I have not been sober since Sunday morning – the opium has taken such an effect²⁹⁴ – Baxter came out of town late this evening – [...]

July 16th Came to the Parsonage yesterday with Maria & M^r Davies – found M^r R Davies here. Baxter arrived soon after – what a shocking night! I hope none of my friends are out in the bush! – or I wish I were with them – How pained I've been today with my chest – when I think of the many mad things I do to try my constitution, can I wonder that it's already failing me? Harriette's letter has made me consider a little the charge that we have from God of our health & how wicked it is to trifle with it – yet what should I wish for a long life for – only to repent? – What do I repent of? Oh! not of my last, my worst sin! No, I love too much to glory in it – and who would not?

Tomorrow we all go to Woolmers – I came from home to avoid something, that I must have done had I remembered – and which is detestable – to me – [...]

July 18th Maria & M^{rs} Archer went for a drive – & the girls out walking – I remained at home, being too poorly to go out – Baxter came to dinner – my chest is very bad – finished M^{rs} Graham's²⁹⁵ work – poor old Lady. We had a long debate today on the propriety, (or rather the impropriety) of waltzing – I have found this dance delightful – but never until the last two dances

²⁹³ The order to proceed to Bengal was not received until 11 Dec. 1839 and the regiment embarked Jan. 1841 (Fyler 200).

²⁹⁴ Opium was freely available in the West in the nineteenth century. Physicians prescribed it indiscriminately to treat pain and other ailments; it was also an ingredient in a number of patent medicines. It was used recreationally and known to be addictive but this did not cause undue concern.

²⁹⁵ Not identified.

(M^{rs} J. Reiby's & M^{rs} Welsh's) have I found it entrancing! – to be held by one you love, you adore – oh! there's no describing a waltz in such a situation !!²⁹⁶

July 20th Returned M^{rs} T. Walker's²⁹⁷ call today – Tomorrow we return to the Parsonage – & next day to Perth – Baxter staid here last night & returned home this morning

This evening M^{rs} Archer & I had a long debate on different subjects – one was that I set a bad example to young persons in this Colony – I cannot quite understand it – but it's too much trouble to enquire into the matter any further – I believe her to be a sincere friend but mistaken on very many subjects – yet what right have I, a being like herself, to judge her? this day fortnight was one of my most miserable days in this melancholy world – oh! I was unhappy!

July 21st Returned to the dear Parsonage early this morning – ... – Supple came over to tell me Baxter went into the bush today – I hope they may have good luck – ...

I am reading Jacquemont's travels in India²⁹⁸ – on my word I think him the vainest man I ever heard of – I never found the French gentlemen so pleasing, except M^r de Glorier²⁹⁹ – and he used to flatter me so quietly, that even young as I was, I might have been rather fond of him, in time – I should like to know what he did with any likeness, that he took –

Oh! I was measured today & am 5 feet 5 ½ – so I've grown an inch this last year! I wish I could grow another inch – perhaps I shall in Sidney – the warmth of the climate – [...]

July 23rd ... News of the bushrangers – a poor constable brought home with his two fingers shot off – [...]

July 25th D^r & M^{rs} Salmon rode home & luncheoned with me – I went over in the evening – ... – Had a letter from Baxter – he will not be home for a week – I am thinking of going into town tomorrow –

²⁹⁶Controversy surrounded the introduction of the “close hold” waltz to England circa 1812. Previously the waltz was danced by a couple with intertwining arms held at shoulder level but no close hold. By the time of Queen Victoria's accession in 1837, “all opposition was overcome and the waltz firmly established” as a popular dance (Rust 69).

²⁹⁷Anna Elizabeth (née Blaxland), wife of Thomas Walker (1791-1861), lived at Rhodes, on the banks of the South Esk, near Longford.

²⁹⁸Victor Jacquemont, *Letters from India: Describing a Journey in the British Dominions of India, Tibet, Lahore, and Cashmere, during the years 1828-31*, 2 vols [trans. from French] (London, 1834).

²⁹⁹Possibly AB's drawing master or French teacher at Twyford Abbey.

July 27th Rode into town this morning with Ducas³⁰⁰ – I got on to M^{rs} Welsh's filly and rode to Elphin with M^r R Dry – called at M^{rs} Miller's – [...]

August 1st ... Baxter came into town on Monday – I spent a very pleasant day at dear Elphin on Sunday –

August 2nd Rode out of town today with Baxter & M^r C. Hazlewood – M^r Youl came home with us from the other side – letter from M^r B. Baxter– D^r & M^{rs} Salmon were here in the evening –

August 5th M^{rs} Penny has been staying with the Salmons – I'm afraid she will present M^r Connolly with a Grandchild before I shall³⁰¹ – M^r & the Misses Youl were here today before church – I did not go – not being well enough to walk there – M^r Youl breakfasts' here in the morning & has kindly offered to drive me in to town – I think I shall go – Ball – the bushranger was shot the day before yesterday³⁰² – [...]

August 11th Baxter is gone to Woolmers – and I'm really glad whenever he goes out – for he is so continually finding fault with me for such trifles – We go to Port Phillip! I wish he may get it!³⁰³ if I do go it's with one reason – [...]

August 19th Last night Walker and Steers were taken.³⁰⁴

M^r Youl called and I drove to church with them – Baxter went into town this even'g to drive out the Ladies tomorrow – I feel in such low spirits that I cannot put on a very merry face and go to M^r Sinclair's tomorrow – I've been reading some letters that I had better not have read – they recall happy[,] happy moments – and I have done with such! – Oh! at times I'm miserable in every sense of the word ...

³⁰⁰ Not identified.

³⁰¹ Louisa, daughter of Major Edward Abbott (see entry 30 Jan. 1837), married Joseph Penny 1838, their first child Joseph Edward was born later that year. While this entry could simply be a reference to Louisa's pregnancy, it could also indicate that AB was pregnant.

³⁰² Benjamin Ball, a bushranger active in the Ben Lomond area, was apprehended and shot by David Gow and Henry Agnew, both prisoners holding a ticket-of-leave on 3 Aug. 1838 (*HTC* 10 Aug. 1838).

³⁰³ Presumably Baxter was exploring the possibility of joining his brother at Port Phillip.

³⁰⁴ The *HTC* reports the capture of Thomas Walker and William Steers by James Hortle, district constable at Norfolk Plains (24 Aug. 1838).

August 20th This evening Norton accompanied me over to Clare Ville – I found all the party there – consisting of M^r & M^{rs} Allan, M^r & M^{rs} & Miss Welsh, M^{rs} Miller and dear old Janet³⁰⁵ – I escaped off to bed earlier than the others –

August 21st This morning Jessie & I took a delightfully cold bath – we of course were much longer dressing than the other ladies – and finding hurrying – make me feel ill – I requested that breakfast should not be kept waiting – M^r Sinclair, however would not³⁰⁶ hear of it – and said so – this created a most exquisite row!

M^{rs} Miller said it was very improper the two youngest of the party keeping the others waiting – & I returned for answer that I had never been in the Lowlands³⁰⁷ to learn manners and I considered it an impertinent observation – ...

August 22nd M^r C. Hazlewood Came to breakfast – the Father, Cupid & M^r Frazer went out shooting – and we went up to the sugarloaf near “Adelphi”³⁰⁸ – M^r R Dry came – The party made a circle and cut us out – so Jessie, M^r C Hazlewood, Major Ryan & myself formed a coterie of our own – In the evening the Dance took place – I waltzed once with M^r Hazlewood – and then I had quite enough –

M^{rs} Miller & I certainly do not quite coincide – she dared to abuse our Father & Cupid and then met them so sweetly – as tho’ she could not even have thought what she said [...]

August 24th We went for a ride nearly to Carrick³⁰⁹ – got quite wet – M^r Welsh returned from town – we had just finished dinner when Mess^{rs} Cheyne, Dry & Youl came in – This evening M^r Dry never spoke to me – except to ask me to dance the last in the room – & he would not then – if any body else had been disengaged – I therefore refused – for even my feelings will not quite abolish my pride – After we went to bed the gentlemen exceeded dreadfully! –

³⁰⁵ Not identified.

³⁰⁶ Superscript in original.

³⁰⁷ Presumably a reference to the Lowland regions of Scotland.

³⁰⁸ This property, once owned by Alexander Clarke, was absorbed into Quamby, the large estate of Richard Dry senior near Westbury (Baker 43).

³⁰⁹ Small town 10½ miles (17 km) to the west of Launceston. Clairville is to the south-east of Launceston so the ride would have been slightly longer (20-25km).

August 25th We were frightened out of bed by M^r Dry playing the Flageolet³¹⁰ – They started soon after – and at 12 – we followed – Baxter & I to Perth and – the rest into town – Oh! I’m quite done for – mind & body – and – much as M^r Burt did to make everything pleasant – still it has been an unhappy week – Often have I left the room laughing to retire to my own room and cry – I’m home again!

August 26th ... Baxter is going into town tomorrow to remain the night – By the bye – he became desperately jealous of poor M^r H — d³¹¹ – and made a sad noise on my valsing³¹² so often with him – so I danced with no one else –

M^r Dry must have a great regard for the giver of the ring he allways wears – for he offered it in exchange for a new one of M^{rs} Welsh’s – I’ll take good care to give nothing – it would be served the same –

Today my little Music book & note that I had written with it to Ellen Dry were returned – re-directed – I presume its to be a family cut – but I don’t think Ellen or Miss Dry would do such a thing – I’m to have a blister³¹³ on my chest – ...

September 1st Today Miss Dry was married to D^r Richardson – The Youls went into town yesterday – M^r Youl called on the way, to see how I was – His sisters very kindly remained where they were – I told him about the book – and he said it was planned to cut me as soon as they could – what can it be for? – I’m certain I would never have said anything to hurt their feelings! I’ve too great a regard for them – I asked him to find out what was the matter? –

M^r Clarke and M^r Sinclair called – M^r Norman³¹⁴ came over in the evening – I’m still not able to leave the house – My illness is more mental than bodily –

We expect to be ordered into town again soon – I hope then soon to Sydney – what rows have ensued from that party of M^r Burt’s – it must be exceedingly unpleasant to the poor little

³¹⁰ A small wind instrument, similar to a recorder.

³¹¹ Charles Hazlewood.

³¹² Waltzing perhaps the version known as the valse à deux temps: a simple but active dance that was popular at the time (Richardson, *Social* 78).

³¹³ Blistering agents were applied to the skin to “raise a serum blister on the skin” in order to treat deep-seated inflammation. The irritation was assumed to get “deep-seated poisons out of the body” (Shorter 125).

³¹⁴ Neither Clarke nor Norman is identified.

man – somebody has mentioned the last night's proceedings – and such outré things have been said respecting it – [...]

September 8th M^r Stapleton³¹⁵ & Baxter are gone to Symmons Plains – they wished me to go – but I preferred remaining – it is like their impudence – wishing to be cool to me! if they only knew the thorough contempt with which I look upon the community at large – their purse-pride might suffer – it must be this sort of pride – for they have no blood to be vain of – Annie Maria Hadden – received coolly by the Misses Youl! C'est bien ridicule!³¹⁶ were it not for their brother I'd cut them – but Plebeian blood is beneath my notice – [...]

September 10th Baxter is just returned – and says I am to be ready to go to Sydney on about Saturday – I cannot believe it! – Leave Van Dieman's Land! – He asked me if I wished to stop to ask the Major – I shall do no such thing – “It's time to go when people are getting tired of me”!

Had two long letters from dear M^{rs} Hazard. Came to the Parsonage – [...]

September 22nd Yesterday came into town for the last time – to M^{rs} Welsh's – we sail for Sydney tomorrow. M^r Dry called – I went out to make some calls – he went out with me – but left me at the corner of the street – Met D^r Richardson & he told me some news – which makes up my mind – called and saw M^{rs} Weymouth – M^{rs} Graham and poor Bridget – How my heart ached to see these poor creatures – sorry – really sorry – to say Good-bye to me – In the evening I went to see M^{rs} Wellman – and M^{rs} Baker – Jessie gave me a very pretty ring – a public dinner given to the Officers –³¹⁷

³¹⁵ Ensign Henry Stapleton (50th Foot), described by AB as a “drole creature” (22 Jan. 1838).

³¹⁶ It is too ridiculous! (French).

³¹⁷ The *LA* (22 Sept. 1838) reports the regiment's departure on the *Bee* for Sydney. The 50th Foot was relieved by 68 soldiers and officers of the 51st (Yorkshire West Riding) Light Infantry Regiment (aka the Kings Own Light Infantry Regiment). The *LA* reports that the soldiers of the 50th Foot “leave the town with the universal goodwill of the inhabitants, with whom on account of their orderly conduct they have always been on the most amicable terms.” The paper commends their conduct as “exceedingly good” and writes that “their general behaviour off duty, and the fine sample of discipline they have shown on duty, is alike creditable with the officers as well as the men.” This accolade contrasts with comments of two years earlier. In May 1836 the *CC* in two issues criticises the behaviour of the regiment. On 21 May 1836 it writes: “We have not space this week to report the awful state of discipline in the Regiment stationed here. Four of the Privates were sent to Hobart Town a day or two since under sentence to the treadmill for six months – and there are at this time no less than eight in gaol upon charges of felony. Seventeen soldiers are now undergoing sentences for crimes or stand committed for trial. Some of the 50th have been detected in robbing the Bonded Store. It is quite time the system was knocked on the head and the Officers made to

September 23rd This morning at 7 o'clock – dear Jessie came up & sat with me – at 9 Jessie, M^{rs} Baker & M^r Dry came – at ½ past 10 – Captⁿ Tew came and said it was time to start – start from this dear place – we went down to the boat – M^r & Jessie Allan, M^r Leigh & M^r R Dry with us – We left Launceston! –

On Tuesday we got out of [the] river Tamar – for ever, I think –

attend to their duties in Barracks.” Two weeks before (7 May 1836) the paper had criticised officers who were “either not present or unable to control” the “unruly” behaviour of the soldiers.

SECOND VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND (29 NOVEMBER 1844 – 7 MARCH 1845) AND

THIRD VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND (28 NOVEMBER 1846 – 7 FEBRUARY 1847)

Introduction

In November 1844 Annie returned to Van Diemen's Land to visit her brother William Hadden, a lieutenant in the Royal Engineers, who, along with his wife, Bessie, and the two youngest of their three children, had recently arrived in Hobart. Annie remained in the colony for approximately three months before departing from Launceston on 12 March 1845 to return to her husband and Yambuk, their grazing property in the recently settled Western Districts of Port Phillip. Eighteen months later, Annie again visited Van Diemen's Land for a similar period. Annie's record of each of these visits is approximately nine thousand words long and occupies about forty-five journal pages. Although almost two years separated them, Annie's records of the two shortest of her five visits to Van Diemen's Land are introduced together. This is because Annie's personal circumstances were much the same for each visit. Each time the visits were temporary interludes and welcome relief from her unhappy marriage, and the harshness and industry of her life in the "bush." On both occasions, Annie visited as William's invited guest, and was largely without responsibilities. The visits also share an important political and social context in that Annie's visit in 1844 coincided with the mid-point of the administration of Sir John Eardley Eardley-Wilmot, Lieutenant-Governor of the colony between 1843 and 1846, while her visit in 1846 occurred just after he had been dismissed in October of that year. The colony in this period was financially depressed almost to the point of bankruptcy, influential settlers were opposed to the policies of the administration and scandal was rife.

Annie's life since leaving Van Diemen's Land in 1838 had been both eventful and difficult. Baxter had left the army in 1839 and he and Annie had taken up land in the Macleay River District, north of Sydney, where they had attempted to establish themselves as graziers on a property they named Yesabba. Like many of those who took up land in previously unsettled frontier territories, they had little or no practical knowledge of agricultural or grazing practices

and in their first year they were beset with one problem after another. Their inexperience resulted in stock losses and ruined crops: stock and dogs were bitten by snakes, and their corn and tobacco crops were both “cut down by caterpillars” (15 Dec. 1839) within a month of planting. Annie worked hard to create a home that was as comfortable as possible, to establish a garden and a dairy, and to raise poultry but she describes herself as “wretched and miserable [and] contending with Poverty and ill-health” (5 Feb. 1841). Their problems were exacerbated by the economic depression of the early 1840s and in March 1844 they left Yesabba to travel overland to Port Phillip and Yambuk, a 10,000-acre property in the richly pastured region of Port Fairy Bay, near Portland, which Baxter had selected on a visit in 1841, and for which he had obtained a Crown Licence in 1842 (Powling 39).

Over the years Annie and Baxter’s personal relationship – compromised at the point of their departure from Van Diemen’s Land in 1838 – had continued to deteriorate. Sexual relations between the two, fraught for some time, had ceased sometime in 1839, possibly after Annie had witnessed Baxter – as she would euphemistically write some time later – “making a Lubra his mistress” (30 May 1849). Despite Baxter’s private insinuations for sexual favours and his more public complaints that she “had left his bed without rhyme, or reason” (July 1843), Annie was steadfast in her denial of physical intimacy and this refusal was a continuing source of friction between them. Baxter was belligerent when drunk, and physically and verbally abusive to Annie and others. As in Van Diemen’s Land, Annie exacerbated the situation by continuing to form friendships of a romantic nature with men she considered more cultivated and gentlemanly than Baxter.

Several times while at Yesabba Annie mentioned in her journal plans for “going home” and appeared to have some support from her family to do this. Annie’s sister, Harriet, who had at times criticised Annie’s behaviour, sympathetically urged Annie to “draw on her or William” for the fare home rather than wait for “butter and cheese money” (Aug. 1843) – presumably the proceeds of Annie’s farming endeavours – to provide sufficient funds for the purpose. At Yesabba, she had local sympathy and support to separate from Baxter. Baxter’s brother-in-law,

William Briggs, and Annie's old friend Mrs McLeod both offered Annie a place with them if she chose to remain in New South Wales. But she was reluctant to take advantage of any of these offers, acknowledging an attachment to Yesabba, and later citing an obligation to "go into the bush at Port Fairy, & try & do [her] duty, so far as to get Baxter out of debt" (16 Sep. 1843) as reasons for not utilising these options. While in part Annie's decision to remain can be explained in these ways, financial concerns and the stigma attached to marital separation in the period possibly provided the greatest impetus for her to remain with Baxter, despite their difficulties. Annie's writing at Yambuk before her departure for Van Diemen's Land in 1844 suggests that, although she was resigned to remain an unhappily married woman, she realised that if she worked alongside Baxter she had the opportunity to achieve a level of economic success, which could in turn lead to a degree of financial independence.

Prior to Annie's departure for Van Diemen's Land in 1846, her situation at Yambuk was slightly different. In the eighteen months between returning to Yambuk from Van Diemen's Land in March 1845 and her departure in November 1846 Annie left the property on very few occasions. Baxter had been absent for several extended periods and had suffered prolonged bouts of injury or illness. While Baxter was indisposed or absent, Annie assumed responsibility for management of their property. In this period she represents herself as a diligent nurse and a capable manager of the house and property. As before, friendships inevitably developed with several of the young men in the district and Baxter, as a consequence, became jealous and suspicious of any male visitors to the property. He watched Annie continually at every social gathering, and twice when they visited the small settlement of Belfast (now known as Port Fairy) he caused unpleasant disturbances. Her resolve and pride were severely tested; she became nervous and unhappy and was probably depressed. On 27 April 1845 she concludes the seventh volume of her journal by describing it as a "catalogue of miseries" and in June 1846, more explicitly, she bemoans in her journal that she has passed "years of Misery [and] all happiness is gone." She describes herself as "broken spirited and desolate [and] a perfect fool" (8 June 1846). After Baxter is "vulgar and personal" at a social occasion in Belfast, she is scathing in her

criticism and condemns him in her journal pages as “a little ill-bred wretch [who] is odious to [her]” (27 Oct. 1846). William had written several times requesting her to visit again and Annie had planned to visit in early October but Baxter prevented her from doing so. Eventually she got away to Portland and from there to Launceston. A few days before departure she summarises her despondency: “I go at length to V.D. Land, on Monday next; ... I could not remain here, it is no good trying = all interest in the place has gone now, and I’m fairly miserable here” and indicates that her “separation may be, nay is to be forever” (21 Nov. 1846). Rather than a statement of fact this is an indication of despair. Annie’s situation was such that she had no option but to remain with Baxter and in the marriage. She could not live respectably or with any degree of financial security alone and because her relationship with Bessie was so fraught she could not live with William.

Van Diemen’s Land

In 1844 Annie had not seen William, who was two years her senior, for more than ten years. He had married Elizabeth Jaquier in October 1833 and they had left for the Cape Colony sometime in 1834 before Annie and Baxter departed from England. William was Annie’s favourite family member. In her journal she had always represented him with affection and tenderness as a loving and esteemed brother. She frequently referred to him in endearing and familiar terms and continued to hold him in high regard. And although it had proved difficult, Annie had attempted to remain in contact with William since he left England. Annie indicates that William was a poor correspondent and at times expressed frustration for what she interpreted as William’s neglect. Certainly there is little evidence in Annie’s journal to suggest that William’s investment in the relationship had the intensity of hers, although to some degree, given his circumstances, this may have been unavoidable. The Royal Engineer Corps was extremely mobile, and its members, like those in the artillery, were ordered to colonies for specific projects as the need arose (Burroughs 164). Before coming to Van Diemen’s Land William had been to the Cape Colony and Canada and spent some time in Britain. Annie had first received news that William might be coming to

the Australian colonies in September 1843 and had anticipated his arrival since then. While she looked forward to his arrival, she hoped that he would come “en bachelor” (Dec. 1843) and that his family would not accompany him, thus enabling her time alone with her beloved brother. However these plans were thwarted when William arrived in Hobart with his invalid wife, Bessie, young son Louis, and baby daughter Annie (Anna Maria), while an older child Wilhelmina (Mina) remained in England at school.

Annie idealized her brother, although she did not hold her sister-in-law in the same high regard. Prior to the Haddens’ arrival in the colony, Bessie is hardly mentioned in Annie’s journal, a sure sign of indifference or even hostility. Soon after Annie’s arrival in Van Diemen’s Land it is obvious that the relationship between the two falls short of the nineteenth-century ideal where an adoring sister welcomes her brother’s wife as a sister (Davidoff and Hall 352). Annie resented Bessie, who suffered from consumption, and considered her a rival rather than a friend. Annie was largely unsympathetic to Bessie’s predicament and, while acknowledging the severity of her illness, found constant fault with her. But Bessie’s condition made her a poor rival and, after some initial awkwardness and disappointment at the time of their reunion in 1844, Annie indicates that she was not disappointed with her visit to William. He was often absent on military business, but when at home he was an attentive brother and she a supportive, sympathetic and loving sister. They frequently rode together and attended various social outings – both activities where Bessie’s illness limited her involvement. Annie assisted William to move house, make jam and on at least one occasion she nursed Bessie during a bout of illness. However, when Annie returned to the colony in 1846 her experience was less satisfying. She was initially disappointed when William failed to collect her from Launceston on her arrival. In Hobart he was frequently away from home and the two had little time together. He socialised without Annie and he had begun a romantic involvement with Mary Anne Roberts, the wife of John Roberts, a partner in a local law firm. Annie does not openly criticise her brother but she ceases to preface references to him in her journal with “dear” or “poor” and he becomes simply “William.” Such a change in inscription is a sure sign that he has dropped in her regard. Annie is openly critical of Bessie, too: “Bessie who

cannot be amiable any length of time, has begun again with her remarks, she finds her match, and I give her as good as she sends" (19 Dec. 1846).

As well as the opportunity to visit her family, an excursion to Van Diemen's Land also promised Annie more social involvement. In 1844 Annie had not expressed any desire for such involvement and in truth it probably was a source of anxiety rather than pleasure. Annie had left the colony under difficult circumstances, after she was ostracised by members of the northern colonial elite, and for this reason she may have approached her return with some trepidation. She freely admitted her vanity, but she was no longer a beautiful young bride, rather a woman of twenty-eight who had spent years in the Australian bush living in harsh conditions, working cattle and suffering physical and mental abuse. She had lost several teeth and complained of rheumatism. Her beauty no longer demanded immediate attention and she faced competition from women younger and more beautiful than she. She had been out of society for a while as Yesabba and Yambuk were both in pioneer regions where social contact was limited. Many of the properties in the region were managed by young single men, women were a minority, and accommodation was often rudimentary. Yambuk's closest settlement was Belfast, which in 1843 was just being surveyed and had a population slightly in excess of 500 people (Powling 48, 84). Social contact was limited in this environment and in the early months at Yambuk Annie rarely left the property. In contrast, Van Diemen's Land offered the chance to visit old friends in the colony's north and enjoy the society, culture and entertainment of Hobart, which in the early 1840s was an established commercial and administrative centre with a population of more than 14,000 people (Solomon 61).

In 1844 Annie's social involvement was initially limited and for the first month or so she reports little activity. Her first social outing to the local regatta was a disappointment. A few days later she declined to attend both a Public Ball and Government House perhaps because, like many of her social status, she did not consider the company select enough (Russell, *Wish* 16), or perhaps because she did not wish to compete with a multitude of younger women. Eventually, Annie found a level of social involvement at smaller and more select social gatherings where she

was not judged solely by appearance and youth. She attracted the attention and patronage of the affable and well-liked Colonial Secretary James Ebenezer Bicheno, then a gentleman of fifty-nine years, and Amelia Burgess, wife of the Chief Police Magistrate Frances Burgess. Both were respected members of the community and proved valuable allies. Annie formed a friendship with Mrs George Barnes, whose “good hearted manners” met Annie’s approval but not that of “Madame ma soeur [Bessie]” (16 Dec. 1844). In late January Annie attended a “soiree” at Government House and in February she and William were among guests at one of Eardley-Wilmot’s parties at Government Cottage, New Norfolk. When Annie returned in 1846 she did not suffer any social exclusion. She attended two balls – one in Launceston and another in Hobart – within days of her arrival in the colony, was a guest at several picnics and parties in the course of her short stay, and enjoyed an overnight excursion to Campania with William. Annie’s friendships with Elizabeth Buckland and Mrs Barnes developed; she made the welcome acquaintance of Peter Fraser, Colonial Treasurer and a notable amateur artist, and continued to be a favourite with Mrs Burgess.

Both of these visits provided Annie with an opportunity to renew her acquaintance with Richard Dry, whom she had not seen since her departure from the colony in 1838. Dry was one of the first to visit when Annie returned in 1844. He was at this time heavily involved in local politics having been appointed by Eardley-Wilmot as a non-official member of the Legislative Council in February 1844. When Annie returned it was obvious that she was still interested in Dry. Her entry dated 31 November 1844, but actually written 1 December 1844, suggests that seeing Dry was emotionally challenging for her. The report is repeated in the next day’s entry when Annie, with studied casualness, mentions his visit: “I forgot to mention that yesterday Mess^{rs} Dry and Wilmot called. The former is truly the very nicest person I ever met with – and yet with all that he can almost wish, he seems melancholy and unhappy” (1 Dec. 1844). In 1844 official duties brought Dry to Hobart regularly and although he and Annie met socially on a number of occasions he did not appear to pay her any special attention.

Annie again met Dry in Launceston on her return in 1846. However, for much of this visit Dry, who was no longer a councillor,¹ was recuperating from a severe fall from his horse and as a consequence was not often in Hobart. Annie therefore had little opportunity to see him. As in the 1830s, his name continued to be linked with various women. At one point, disgusted by news of his exploits, she condemns him as a “seducer, a man who ruins women’s honor, happiness, eternal welfare” and hopes that, should he marry, “his wife [may] be to him, what he has caused so many to be to their husbands” (19 Jan. 1847). Although Annie acknowledges her feelings for him as passionate in 1844, she has tempered these in the subsequent visit. Here she strives to establish her relationship with him as different from those he had with other women. She claims a “pure” and “sisterly” love for Dry (12 Dec. 1846) and thus distinguishes her relationship with him from those he pursued with other women. Annie reports his misdemeanours and at times disapproves of his actions.

The Journal Record 1844 -1845 and 1846 -1847

Annie’s record of her second visit to Van Diemen’s Land is written in a section of the seventh volume of her journal, catalogued as Notebook 5 in the Dixon manuscript collection, while the third concludes the tenth volume and begins the eleventh. (These volumes are catalogued as Notebooks 8 and 9 respectively in the Dixon collection.) They are small notebooks of similar dimensions and of about one hundred pages each. The seventh volume is a small notebook covered with marbled paper, and bound on its spine with thin tan-coloured faux-leather. It was begun in September 1844, four months after her arrival at Yambuk. Volume ten, begun in August 1846 after a gap of some months when Annie “could not procure a book” (August 1846), is likewise small: it is covered in dark blue faux-leather and has tooling around its edges and spine and has a central embossed pattern on the front and back covers. The eleventh is a simple notebook covered in a reddish-brown faux-leather and of a similar size to the other volumes.

¹ Dry, along with fellow councillors – Charles Swanston, Michael Fenton, Thomas George Gregson, William Kermode and John Kerr – resigned from the Legislative Council in October 1845 in protest at Eardley-Wilmot’s planned introduction of the revenue-raising Municipal Bill. The group popularly known as the “Patriotic Six” received significant public support for their actions (Robson 422-24).

Annie's record of the second visit consists of regular entries without significant gaps – the largest is a gap of five days (9-14 February) – but otherwise entries are made every few days. However, when Annie returned in 1846 she was more socially involved than previously and perhaps for this reason her entries are less frequent. They were not made every day but rather written up retrospectively, and for the most part these entries maintain a diurnal structure and report activities of each day in sequence, thus providing a continuous and textually coherent record of her experiences. The journal records of these visits are structured as episodes, analogous to a new "chapter" in the story of Annie's life. Both are thematically focused on her relationships with family members and interactions with colonial society while in both records Dry remains a persistent interest.

Margot Culley reminds her readers that diaries are constructs that are the result of the selection of material for inclusion and the arrangement of detail, and which incorporate a number of literary devices in their composition. For Culley, diary writing is a kind of autobiographical act which involves the writer in "complex literary as well as psychological processes" through which the self is revealed (10). The self revealed is not, as Culley contends, the self in any total sense, but is to some degree a fiction or a construction. Judy Simons extends Culley's observation when she argues that women "draw inevitably on the rhetoric of femininity that has been available to them in published works, utilizing and adapting literary models that most clearly appropriate their own experience" (255). Simons' analysis of Hester Thrale's and Fanny Burney's diaries demonstrates the ways in which these women borrow from other literary genres to construct a persona for themselves. Simons argues that Thrale, when a widow of forty-one and deeply in love with a younger man, "turns in her diary to the rhetoric of contemporary sentimental fiction to find a discourse that can emblemise her personal situation" and creates her "persona as an isolated heroine of romantic sensibility" (256). The younger Burney constructs herself as the spirited and unconventional heroine of an adventure or romance narrative who is "not confined to the feminine domestic or sentimental ideal" (259).

Annie, too, borrows from the romance genres to represent herself. In the record of her visit to Van Diemen's Land in 1844 she draws inspiration from sentimental romance to write herself as a forbearing, genteel heroine of romantic sensibility who is destined to lead an unfulfilled life with a man she neither loves nor respects and who has little possibility of altering the situation. In self-assessment and commentary she emphasises her resignation and situates herself as an unworldly woman who has "schooled [her] heart into apathy and carelessness of what the world may think of [her]" (31 Dec. 1846). She has experienced "Misery" (6 Jan. 1847) but has "no right to complain" and "must always ... feel ... situated as [she is] such a loneliness of heart" (1 Jan. 1847).

Annie establishes her own gentility and respectability through what Patricia Meyer Spacks describes as "the principle of differentiation" (184). Spacks contends that the incorporation of criticism and scandal in personal writing is a key strategy used by women to differentiate them from the subjects of particular gossip – to set them apart and to establish them as superior (184). Annie reports the indiscretions of others in such a way that recognition of her own relative respectability is inevitable. This is the case for her detailed report of her visit to "Mrs Elliot," one time "Chère amie [mistress] to Lord Osburn" (27 Dec. 1844), and the information she received from Charles Hazlewood that "Mrs Sorell [Julia's mother] is at Cawnpore with Major Deare, and has two children" and "Mrs Pringle Steward [Stuart] is at Bonibox living most disreputably" (23 Jan. 1845). In contrast, Annie although unhappily married, has not allowed desire to compromise her marriage vows.

Annie's report of social interaction is similarly self-revelatory. At one level it works to establish her sense of propriety and respectability while at the same time it acknowledges her vanity and establishes at once her desirability and superiority. Annie's first social outing in Hobart in 1844 is a case in point. On this occasion Annie was neglected by her brother, overshadowed by Julia Sorrell – eighteen years old and an acknowledged beauty – and largely ignored by the assembled company. Denied the status of protagonist, Annie is relegated to the role of reporter and social observer. She was "choked" in the crowd at the "Flower show" and

forced to sit in the bedroom at luncheon on board the yacht *Albatross*. She levels subtle criticism at guests on the *Albatross* who partook “freely of [the luncheon] ... of course, so that the entertainer should not be disappointed” (3 Dec. 1844). Unnoticed, she reports that the “Band was the greatest treat to me” (3 Dec. 1844) and in her entry adopts an attitude of superiority towards the Hobart society in which she has only a limited role. This is again the position she assumes when she attends Eardley-Wilmot’s party at Government Cottage at New Norfolk. Her journal reports in guarded terms Julia Sorell’s indiscretions and the “tiresome” attentions of Mr Kirwan. Annie summarises her activity, after the day at Government Cottage, as “passing as stupid a day as [she] remember[ed] in [her] existence” (14 Feb. 1845). In both records Annie de-emphasises her own presence with a focus on the activities of others and therefore dissociates herself from what she may perceive as ungentle or improper behaviour.

However, when Annie returns in 1846 the persona she projects is more flamboyant and the prose style of her writing is heightened and chattier. She makes greater use of the language of sentimental romance: “Nothing would do ... I tired her at that though ... & as the cab which was at the door to convey her to her Uncle’s, I escaped her!” (28 Nov. 1846). Similarly, on the night of the St. Andrew’s Ball she writes that they go to their “several rooms to adorn” (2 Dec. 1846). William’s inability to collect her provides her with an opportunity to “see all my old friends [in Launceston], and yet be in time to make my debut in the Metropolis at Mrs Burgess’ dance” (1 Dec. 1846) where the rooms were “crowded with a well-dressed multitude” (3 Dec. 1846). Annie’s record of the St. Andrew’s Ball in Launceston extends over several pages and provides a detailed account of events, which in itself is an indication that the event was socially successful for her. She begins her report with an account of her reluctant acceptance of an invitation, and concludes with the observation that “by some I was thought the belle of last night’s assembly, and had quite smitten Mr J.G—t” (2 Dec. 1846). At Mrs Burgess’s Brown’s River picnic two days after the ball, Annie again represents herself as a desirable and sought-after guest. She reports that, on going to present her apologies, Mrs Burgess “would not let me return home” and consequently she “was put into a vehicle without the slightest wish to go” (3 Dec. 1846). In this

way Annie becomes the (supposedly) reluctant heroine of a sentimental novel in which she is the principal protagonist.

Annie's account of a visit to the *HMS Castor* in December 1846 contrasts markedly with that of being on board the *Albatross* some two years earlier. Again she casts herself as a reluctant but desirable participant. "Urged ... strongly" by Mrs and Miss Burgess and Miss Cox to attend, she is taken into Mr Gennis's "safe keeping" with whom she "strayed ... [over] every part of the ship." The ship is crowded as the *Albatross* was but Annie is unperturbed. She comments that a "nice déjeunée was spread, and many of the good folks [were] enjoying it." It is an echo of her observation at the *Albatross* luncheon two years before but this time is devoid of sarcasm. Dancing and singing are the order of the day and Annie makes a spectacular exit when she indecorously allows herself to be hoisted off the ship so high that she "could see all the shipping in the Harbour, and the Town, to great advantage" (21 Dec. 1846).

Whereas on the previous visit Annie had been guarded in her criticism of Bessie, this time she makes no pretension to civility, and although occasionally acknowledging that Bessie is very ill and "to be pitied," her criticism is sustained and relentless and she lets no opportunity to criticise Bessie pass: "Dr Robertson continues the 'standing dish' here with Bessie; I think it is because he is continually grumbling and abusing others" (19 Dec. 1846). Annie criticises Bessie as a parent when she observes that little Annie who was now almost two-years-old was all but ignored by her mother: "Anna-Maria is very active on her legs, but cannot speak – she is nearly as much noticed as her brother is" (3 Dec. 1846). Bessie's coldness pervades the house to the extent that Annie pities "William from [her] soul and wonders at his forbearance & kindness" and acknowledges that "come in, in whatever humour you will [and] your spirits are dampened by that intolerable woman, Bessie" (25 Dec. 1846). Annie does, however, exercise some restraint when she reassures Bessie that nothing is going on between William and Mrs Roberts even though she fears that William is indeed involved with Mrs Roberts whose manner Annie does not "exactly like" (12 Dec. 1846).

On this visit Annie reveals herself to be much less concerned about what others think. She does not hide her vanity, nor does she seem compelled to demonstrate respectability – her narrative clearly emphasises she is regarded as an attractive and desirable companion. She definitely occupies centre stage and describes in detail many of the social events she attends. Unlike her self-representation for the second visit she is not compelled to conform to any paradigm of an ideal feminine subjectivity, making entries which emphasise the technical competence she had acquired by virtue of her outdoor work at Yambuk. When recording her regular afternoon ride, Annie often includes comments which indicate that she is an experienced and competent horsewoman. Similarly, her conversation is not limited to what is assumed typically feminine: she makes reference to the affairs of state, comments upon military conflict with the New Zealanders and on-board the *Castor* she has limited enthusiasm for dancing but is very interested in the physical appearance and mechanical operation of a zither-like instrument from China. Unlike in 1844, when she was anxious to demonstrate respectability, Annie is far less concerned with aspects of decorum as her participation in after-ball shenanigans in Launceston, and her departure from the party on board the *Castor*, demonstrate.

When Annie arrived in Van Diemen's Land in November 1846 she considered that she was a woman with no possibility of future happiness. In view of this the confidence and flamboyance which characterises much of her journal record for this visit is difficult to fathom. Steven Kagle and Lorenza Gramegna's observations about a number of diaries written by educated American women in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries offer a useful way to consider Annie's self-representation for this visit. Taking issue with previous scholarship that contends that women's diaries are generally an analogue of helpless, trivial and fragmented female lives, they argue that in so far as a diary is "often begun as a response to tension or dislocation in the diarist's life" it is "usually positive and helpful" (43). They contend that these diarists incorporated fictional elements into their writing to "redefine the past, alter the perception of the present, and control the future" in order that "the frightening can be made to seem exciting or comical and the improbable hope, possible" (41). Kagle and Gramegna observe that the diary

not only functioned as “an outlet for tension through private expression” but importantly it provided “an opportunity to alter or remove the source of that tension” (43). They argue that “diaries are often used to adjust an unhappy external situation” (51). In this respect Annie’s self-construction as a romantic adventuress in the record of the third visit to Van Diemen’s Land could allow her to perceive herself as a woman with a future rather than a helpless victim condemned to misery.

Journal 29 November 1844 – 7 March 1845

November 29th Friday. At length we have a fine fair wind – & most probably shall be in George Town tonight – ...

November 30th Saturday – The wind was favorable yesterday until we reached Mt Direction – when its becoming contrary, obliged us to remain there all night; and this morning we got as far as M^r Griffith's farm.¹ We went ashore for a short time, which was a great treat to poor Ada, who skipped along like a mad thing!

At 12 o'clock, a boat came down for the Mails, so Captⁿ Martin² and I got into it, and went up to Launceston – where I repaired to the "Cornwall".³ Charles Friend⁴ came in immediately to see me. I went next to the Wellman's⁵ – and there remained until the Waiter came to tell me M^r Dry had called. I found him as ever – Kind and happy to see me! He is paler – but otherwise improved; with the sole exception of having lost a front tooth.

*November 31st Sunday*⁶ – I went to Trinity Church⁷ with M^{rs} Wellman & the girls – dined at her house – and went to the old church in the evening. ... My feelings are making sad havock with me – I fancied (and how absurdly) that being in the bush had made me less passionate and sensitive! But now I find I am as I was – and nothing will alter me. ...

¹ Former convict Jonathon Griffiths (1773-1839) established a 7000-acre (2832 hec.) farm at Freshwater Point on the West Tamar in the late 1820s. The homestead Griffiths commenced building in 1824 is currently utilised as colonial accommodation and is listed by the National Trust of Australia. Freshwater Point was named by Matthew Flinders and is located on a sweeping bend in the tortuous Tamar River. The property was inherited by Griffiths' son John (1801-1881), an entrepreneurial businessman with interests in Launceston and the Port Fairy region.

² Not identified.

³ The Cornwall Hotel, Cameron St (see entry 12 Jan. 1838).

⁴ Friend was possibly an employee of the Customs Department in Launceston in the 1840s (see note for entry 3 Dec. 1837).

⁵ Family of Major Harvey Wellman (q.v.).

⁶ Actually 1 Dec.; as a consequence of this error AB's dates are incorrect until 16 December.

⁷ The second Episcopalian church to be built in Launceston, the first, St. John's, opened in 1825. Holy Trinity was erected on the north-east corner of Cameron and George Streets. The foundation stone was laid in 1841. It was demolished in 1902 and later rebuilt (Bethel 84).

December 1st Monday. I forgot to mention that yesterday Mess^{rs} Dry and Willmot⁸ called. The former is truly the very nicest person I ever met – and yet with all that he can wish almost, he seems melancholy and unhappy – alas! “there is a skeleton in every house”!

I was called at 3 o’clock to start per coach, having determined on going across the country. ... The Coach was crowded – and I, being very sleepy and inclined to muse, shut my eyes, and began to think in earnest. The roads are so much improved, and really good now. Nothing occurred to us worthy of note – excepting my nearly sending an elderly lady into fits from fright, when we were crossing at Bridgewater.⁹

When I reached Hobart Town, I procured a Cab, and Ada & I drove to William’s house in Macquarie Street. It is certainly a long way out of town¹⁰ – I rang at the bell, and after ascertaining that the gentleman was home, I passed the servant, and just as I got to the drawing room, William opened the door and made a regular spring at me! Bessie¹¹ was lying on the sofa, looking very delicate – yet not altered in the least, either in manner or appearance!

William is not as handsome as he was – but still goodlooking – and so very like my Uncle in voice, and manner. He has Harriet’s portrait here, which they say is very like her; if so, she is stouter considerably – and has a cross look. She has no care tho’, and is very happy.

December 3rd Wednesday Today was the Regatta¹² – William & I went in a Cab to call for Miss Sorrell – She and her sister¹³ were soon with us. Neither of them are pretty, altho’ both are good looking! Their eyes are small & the eldest’ have the Vixen depicted in them. ...

⁸ One of the three sons – Augustus Hillier (1818-1892), Robert Charles Chester (1822-1910) and Charles Octavius (1824-1886) – who accompanied Lt-Gov. John Eardley Eardley-Wilmot to Van Diemen’s Land.

⁹ Settlement 12 miles (19 km) from Hobart Town where the Derwent River is spanned by an “earthen causeway,” 2,300 ft (700 m) in length. The causeway, begun in 1836, was constructed by convict road gangs over many years. Before the 1,010 ft (307 m) bridge was constructed in 1848-1849 a ferry carried the coach across the river (Stancombe 32, West 537).

¹⁰ In 1839 the town boundary enclosed an area of 1000 acres (404.68 hec.). The town was centred around the port and the shopping precinct of Elizabeth and Liverpool Sts. Macquarie St extended westward only as far as Elboden St and provided major transport access to Hobart Town from the south (Solomon 46, 51, 114). Elizabeth Fenton comments that the cottage in Macquarie St, near Antill St that she occupied in 1829 “afford[ed] immediate access to the jungle” (354).

¹¹ Elizabeth Hadden (q.v.).

¹² This much anticipated event, inaugurated by Sir John and Lady Jane Franklin, had been held annually since 1838 to commemorate the discovery of Van Diemen’s Land. The *CT* 3 Dec. 1844 advertises that the “Seventh Anniversary Regatta, in commemoration of the discovery of the Island of Van Diemen’s Land, will take place at Pavilion Point on Wednesday 4th December 1844.”

We saw the 1st race on the water – and after that we went ashore, and walked up to the Flower show.¹⁴ We there saw all the world, and were nearly choked!

Soon after, we went on board the *Albatross*, a pretty yacht, where luncheon was laid for a great many persons – and who by the way, seemed to partake very freely of it – of course, so that the entertainer should not be disappointed! I found that the cabin was so full, that I went into the bed-room and there sat until the other folks had vacated it – when I was called in; and sitting on the sofa, when the Misses Landale with their Uncle came in.¹⁵ We all went on shore soon – and William went for Bessie, who had promised to come at 2 o'clock.

The Band was the greatest treat to me – and I was quite tired of being taken about from one place to another by Miss Sorrell, who wished to attract the attention of some person, or persons, to me unknown!¹⁶...

December 6th Saturday I refused to go to either a Public Ball or Government House – as I am not fit for such entertainments! Not but that I could laugh, talk, and in fact make a fool of myself as well as most persons; but I have my own private thoughts on this subject, which others, perhaps more worldly, would laugh at.

This evening however, I dined out in company with Bessie, William and D^r Robertson,¹⁷ at Major Victor's.¹⁸ They appear very agreeable, kind people. Bessie, who purposes doing "Exclusive", mixes freely in their society!

¹³ Julia Sorell (q.v.) and her sister Augusta.

¹⁴ The Horticultural Show was held concurrently with the regatta. Pelargoniums, roses, pinks, carnations, vegetables, fruit and native flowers were exhibited. Some "very fine *cacti*" exhibited by Assistant Commissary General, Mr [G.] McLean were singled out for special mention by the *CT* (7 Dec. 1844).

¹⁵ Jessie Maria (b. 1827) and Eliza Jane (b. 1828) were nieces of Richard Dry and daughters of Thomas Landale (see entry 14 Mar. 1837).

¹⁶ "Eight to ten thousand persons" enjoyed the "glad rejoicings" on a day it "was a positive sin not to be happy." "The morning was ushered in by the firing of guns ... the starting of the Flotilla was the first spectacle which opened ... the fine band of the 51st enlivened the scene ... and stalwart whalers, with other crews, in their respective boats, completed a picture, not to say a pageant, which gave pleasure to thousands" (*C T* 7 Dec. 1844).

¹⁷ Probably Dr John Robertson who arrived on the *Kinnear* from Portsmouth 27 Feb. 1834 to take up an appointment as Deputy-Inspector-General of Hospitals. He was appointed president of the seven-member Court of Examiners established in June 1844 to licence and regulate medical and related practice in the colony. In 1847 he became the Inspector-General of Hospitals in the colony.

¹⁸ James Conway Victor (1792-1864), was a major in the Royal Engineers. He arrived in Hobart Town as the commanding officer of the Royal Engineers in 1842 on the *Emily*. He was accompanied by his wife, the former Anne Dashwood and daughter Sophia. In 1843 Victor was appointed director of the amalgamated

A most laughable story is told of His Excellency's being surprised on the day of the Regatta, kissing Miss King¹⁹ – who is a very pretty girl and sister to M^{rs} Pringle Steward.²⁰...

Yesterday I had a pleasant ride with William on M^r Dry's horse "Alonzo". M^r Erskine²¹ met us, and asked if we knew where M^r Dry was as M^{rs} Erskine wanted his horse to ride? "Brother Dick"²² is even more than ever a favorite it seems with all – especially the fair sex – and no wonder; I never met his equal, nor shall ever try! There is something so peculiarly flattering in his gentle, melancholy voice – and still more in his peculiarly earnest look. I'm so glad William likes him – but I felt certain he would. [...]

December 11th Thursday I got up very early this morning to see William off – as he is going to Port Arthur.²³ Bessie went for a drive – She is very delicate, but I think would be better if she were obliged to try and walk. ...

December 16th I sat some time with M^{rs} Barnes²⁴ today. I like her good hearted manners – altho' Madame ma soeur²⁵ does not – and tries to vex me, by saying such rude, unladylike things of her!

...

departments of public works, roads and bridges with a salary of £300, in addition to his military duties. After these departments were separated, Victor attempted to cease his involvement and concentrate only on military duties. He was persuaded by Sir William Denison in 1847 to superintend the building of Franklin's Wharf. Victor, with his wife and daughter, left the colony in 1848.

¹⁹ Adelina King was the daughter of George King, Acting Police Magistrate at Bothwell in 1846. King, his wife and two daughters were guests at Government House where "Sir Eardley was said to have established an intimacy with Adelina King" (Robson 435; Brown, *Clyde* 4: 15).

²⁰ Frances King married police magistrate Robert Pringle Stuart at Launceston in 1836. AB later reports that "Mrs Pringle Stewart is at Bonibox living most disreputably" (23 Jan. 1844).

²¹ David Erskine (b.1816), lieutenant of the 51st (Yorkshire, West Riding) Regiment of Foot (hereafter 51st Foot), third son of Lord Erskine, married Anne Maria Spode (b. 1822), daughter of Josiah Spode 10 Oct. 1839. An advertisement in the *CT* (11 Jan. 1845) for a domestic servant indicates that the Erskines resided at 57 Davey Street. Erskine was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1839 (*HTC* 14 June 1839). Three sons and one daughter were born in Hobart Town before the family's departure in Sept. 1846.

²² A variation (perhaps peculiar to AB) of "Dicky Dry" the name by which the popular and affable Richard Dry was affectionately known by many of his contemporaries (Clarke 325, Button 279).

²³ Port Arthur, a penal settlement south of Hobart Town on the isolated Tasman Peninsula, was established by Lt-Gov. George Arthur in the 1830s, to replace Macquarie Harbour as a place of secondary punishment for convicts (Robson 151). The Royal Engineers served in VDL from 1835 until the 1870s during this time they were responsible for construction and maintenance of convict and military buildings throughout the colony. The regiment superintended extensive prison works at Port Arthur during this decade and were responsible for maintenance of existing buildings (MacFie 4, 8).

²⁴ Mrs George Barnes, wife of the Collector of Customs. He was an official member of the Legislative Council 1838-1848. The Barnes lived at Boville in Davey St (Westlake 14).

²⁵ My sister (French).

December 19th William started again this morning for Maria Island,²⁶ and is to return by Christmas-day. Dear fellow! he is very much worried – and if I had not put up with so much myself, I could wonder how he stands it all! ...

Bessie is the most unamiable, unenviable beauty, I ever came in contact with! I declare most solemnly, that I would not exchange my looks and heart for her's – no, not for a world! It appears quite delightful to her, my being less good looking than herself – and yet she is jealous. Poor creature! She is indeed to be pitied. ...

Bessie talks of the Colonial girls being inferior to our's! – true in most cases – but can she, or either of her boasted sisters equal either Jessie or Marion?²⁷ [...]

December 22nd Sunday I yesterday walked to return M^{rs} Erskine's visit, and found her from home. I then went to look over the new house; it is a nice one. I next walked into the town, and made several purchases from Lewis'²⁸ – whom I consider very dear with their goods. Whilst I was from home, M^{rs} Elliott²⁹ called with her Niece, Miss Osburn.

D^r Robertson came just as I did. I rather like him; but he will find me check him more in his little bits of scandal – for altho' I perfectly agree with Madam de Ventadour³⁰ in admiring the system of scandal still I return to the Golden Law of “Do unto thy neighbour, as thou would'st he should do unto thee”!³¹ And how soon we fire up when we hear anything against ourselves.

December 25th Wednesday – and Christmas-day As usual, it is exceedingly hot on this day, so reminding us of our extreme distance from dear old England!

²⁶ Maria Island on the east coast of Tasmania was a penal settlement established by Arthur in 1825 as a place of secondary punishment for those convicts whose crimes in the colony did not warrant banishment to Port Macquarie. The settlement was abandoned in 1832 but re-established as a Probation Station in 1842 and up to 600 convicts were quartered there and engaged in government agricultural services. The Royal Engineers had responsibility for the construction and maintenance of buildings on this island as they did at Port Arthur.

²⁷ Jessie Smythe (née Allan) (q.v.) and Marion McLeod (q.v.).

²⁸ Premises of Richard Lewis (1789-1867). In 1845 he built a three-storey commercial property on the corner of Argyle and Collins Street, before this he conducted his business from nearby rented premises.

²⁹ The wife of Lt-Col. P.F. Elliot, who was commanding officer of the 51st Foot and Commandant in Van Diemen's Land 1838-1846. AB implies Miss Osburn was Mrs Elliot's daughter.

³⁰ Madame de Ventadour – a character from Edward Bulwer-Lytton's 1837 novel, *Ernest Maltravers* – endorses “the system of scandal” in which the fear of scandal acts as a form of social control thus maintaining a degree of virtuousness (Bulwer Lytton 59).

³¹ A version of the ethic of reciprocity.

How lightly do we think of the meaning of today's being kept as a holiday by all classes!
From our very earliest childhood this season is associated with visions of plum puddings & mince pies – these fill our ideas of Christmas then! ...³²

December 26th It has been a sultry day – and poor Bessie appeared to feel it very much so! I walked up after dinner to get some books from M^{rs} Barnes' – and have brought back "Tales of the Colonies".³³

December 27th William & I took a ride this afternoon – I on his Mare, and which carried me very well. We called on M^r & M^{rs} Belcher³⁴ – and left our cards at Government House. We called coming back, on M^{rs} Elliott – the Colonel's wife of the 51st. She was, we are told, formerly Chère amie³⁵ to Lord Osburn; by whom she has a Niece. Depuis³⁶ she lived with Mons^r le Colonel in the same way; eventually however, she purchased him two steps, and before the last one, he married her. William did not wish me to call on her – but I said I would only leave my card – as I'm not a resident, I do'nt see why I should take the law into my own hands! She was sitting in the Verandah; and I said I was late for dinner, and would not get off my horse. ...

The Colonial Treasurer, (I ca'nt spell his name) rode part of the way with us – and pressed us to go to see him– He is a funny stout old person – and a great admirer of the "Fine arts". His house is very good – and so beautifully situated. I thought I almost felt inclined to envy him it – yet what benefit should I derive in living in a Palace even, with my lonely heart?³⁷

I have been reading "Hood's Rhine"³⁸ – I think it is well written – at least cleverly so!
[...]

³² The remainder of this entry reflects on the meaning of Christmas, much of which is reprised in the concluding sections of her memoir, *Memories of the Past* (110-12).

³³ Charles Rowcroft Rowntree's *Tales of the Colonies, or the Adventures of an Emigrant, Edited by a late Colonial Magistrate* (London: Saunders and Otley, 1843) is recognised as the "first Australian novel of the emigrant genre of any stature" (*ADB*).

³⁴ Thomas Leopold Belcher (1818-1848), Assistant Surgeon 51st Foot, and his wife Catherine, née Dunn, eldest daughter of Hobart Town banker John Dunn.

³⁵ Mistress (French).

³⁶ Since (French).

³⁷ In this entry AB is referring to James Ebenezer Bicheno, Colonial Secretary VDL 1843-1851. His substantial stone house, Northam Cottage, was situated on the banks of the New Town Rivulet and surrounded by gardens. He was a member of the committee which planned the first public exhibition on paintings in Australia. The Colonial Treasurer in 1843 was Peter Fraser (1808-1888).

³⁸ Thomas Hood, *Up the Rhine* (London, 1840).

December 30th Sunday. William & I had a long strole in the garden after breakfast – where he told me such things! We went to M^r Bicheno's to dinner – where we found two other persons. The old gentleman was so kind, that William declares he is smitten with me. He said I was to tell him what books, or indeed anything, that I wanted in the bush – as he would gladly contribute! What a pity I'm not single for his sake!!! ...

December 31st ~~Monday~~ Tuesday ... M^r Dry called during the morning – the more I see him, the more I think of the happy old times in Launceston – And will they never return, or some like them? He is going out of town at 4 o'clock, on his way to Campbell Town Races³⁹ – and then to our Port!⁴⁰

This is the last day of 1844 – Eh! bien it has certainly ended far more happily than I ever anticipated – it only shows what a few days may bring forth! What comparative happiness, and its reverse rests on the breath of man! How simple it appears to me to be so dependant on my fellow creatures – and how I have schooled my heart into apathy & carelessness of what the world may say & think of me! ...

1st of January 1845. Wednesday The first day of another year – and perhaps it may be happier to me than the last – altho' I certainly have no right to complain, it having ended too happily for me! Yet, notwithstanding my having seen some friends very, very dear to me – still I feel, (and must always do so, situated as I am,) such a loneliness of heart. ...

January 2nd Thursday. What a delightful occupation is that of making jam! My feelings warmed, as I found the jam doing so! Then again my hands all spattered with the sweets – and scalded accordingly! N'importe,⁴¹ they who would taste of the sweets, must likewise feel the sours! ...

³⁹ Campbell Town is 89 miles (143 km) from Hobart Town and 42 miles (67 km) from Launceston. The main road between these two centres passes through the town which was established in 1821. In the 1840s races were held early in the year. "[E]ntries were received at Mr Broad's Foxhunter's Return and on the second day a race dinner was held at Mr Kean's Rainbow Hotel" (249). Launceston's *CC* reports that the event was "numerously attended" and that the competition was "spirited" (4 Jan. 1845) while Hobart Town's *CT* reports a "dead heat, the first known in this colony" for the first heat of the Maiden's Plate (4 Jan. 1845).

⁴⁰ Dry was a passenger to Portland on the *Timbo* which sailed from George Town 15 Jan. 1845.

⁴¹ Never Mind (French).

In the evening I rode the Mare on William's saddle a short way. I feel to want exercise and excitement! [...]

January 5th Sunday. I walked to church in the afternoon – ...and only had to wait an hour at M^{rs} Webb's.⁴² When I did go – it brought to my mind the last time I had been in the same church! I was then a giddy girl – and not unhappy – My heart had not then known either a real pang – or a real pleasure; I have known both since then: yet the pleasures have only added to the pains – “telle est la vie”!⁴³

Next to me sat a nice looking young girl, and with her a little baby (with its nurse –) it was evidently her first, from the anxiety she displayed about it. I do'nt like to look at babies – they always with me, bring on a disagreeable train of thoughts. I'm sure I should have made such a fond mother – for I like Louis so much, as dear William's child – then how much more my own! Yet with me, as with Byron “I would love it, for it's Father's sake” – and that only. [...]

January 8th Wednesday. It has been such a dis-agreeable day – so blowing & dusty! I went up to see M^{rs} Doveton's child⁴⁴ – and felt fagged to death – On my way home with William, I passed M^r Dry's fair friend, (shall I say chère?) Miss G. Kemp– looking so smiling and happy! And beside her, sat a young man, whom I suspect was M^r Ashburner. I wonder if she has been riding lately – and tied her horse up to a tree, whilst she & her attaché amused themselves in the bush?⁴⁵

How different is Man's and Woman's love! How true the words of “the Favor'd Guest”!⁴⁶ Yet then generally happen to fall in with persons like the Misses K— p, and they then imagine all of us to think, act, and love as lightly. [...]

⁴² Possibly the establishment of John Webb who operated a catering and restaurant business in Murray St, Hobart Town.

⁴³ Such is life (French).

⁴⁴ Margaret Doveton (b. 1824), wife of Captain Francis Doveton (b. 1819) of the 51st Foot, had a daughter Margaret Elizabeth in 1844. Margaret Doveton was the daughter of Robert and Rachael Bostock of Vacluse, Epping Forest.

⁴⁵ Presumably AB is referring to Ann Georgiana Kemp (b. 1821), daughter of Anthony Fenn Kemp (q.v.) and Elizabeth Riley, and George Elliot Ashburner (b. 1821), son of William Page and the late Hester Maria Ashburner. The two were married in 1845.

⁴⁶ Popular song, “They Tell Me Thou'rt the Favoured Guest,” published in *The Young Lady's Songster*.

January 15th Wednesday. Today a Fancy Fair⁴⁷ was held, & numerous attended I believe. In the evening D^r Robertson was here; he is too fond of abusing the good folks out in this colony, to please me! Altho' he has met with scarcely more civility than I have on this side of the Island. ...

Bessie has behaved so unlike a lady for the last week, that I can scarcely, even for dear William's sake, help telling her my mind. She laughs & talks with her servants – and if I go into the room, she never speaks to me at all – consequently I remain in my own room now; and feel so wretched. I would not be bound to live in the same house with her for any time, for the whole world! She is the most disagreeable, unamiable, unladylike woman I ever met. ...

January 18th Saturday – I passed the day yesterday with M^{rs} Barnes – We went to see the Exhibition of Paintings,⁴⁸ and found it well worth seeing. [...]

January 20th Monday. This morning we moved into Davey Street⁴⁹ – and I came up early, to assist William in putting things to rights. Bessie did not come until the evening – and then remarked that “her room was not settled yet”! Oh! Amiability! ...

January 21st Tuesday. William & I had such a delightful ride on the sands today. Bessie went out in D^r Robertson's carriage. All the world was out, for the day was so exceedingly fine.

I received a letter from Baxter, wherein he tells me of a severe fall that he has had, and having in consequence been laid up for some days in his bed. He most certainly have [sic] been miserable, without a soul to do anything for him. [...]

⁴⁷ This event, held in aid of the Infant School Society was advertised in the *CT* (14 Jan. 1845) and reported in the edition of 18 Jan. 1845. The stalls were “respectfully attended” by a number of Hobart Town ladies. The *CT* reports that the women “by their fascinating and persuasive exertions, proved themselves most accomplished saleswomen” and that articles for sale included “specimens of very beautiful needlework, with work-boxes very tastefully fitted up, water-colour drawings, sketches, fruits and flowers in wax.” They also report a “vast number of articles for sale, and a great many visitors to purchase them, so that £80 odd were realised for the infant school.” The *CT* concludes that “altogether the fair represented a more gratifying spectacle than we have witnessed for a long time” (18 Jan. 1845). The ironic tone of the entry suggests that this was clearly a social event from which Annie, for one reason or another, was excluded.

⁴⁸ This exhibition, organised by a local committee of gentlemen, is generally accepted as the first of its kind in the Australian colonies. Paintings executed by local artists as well as those in private collections were included. The exhibition, held in the Legislative Council Room, Customs House, was opened to the general public on 6 Jan. 1845. Admission was one shilling. The *CT* although critical of the “exclusive character of this affair” (7 Jan. 1845) was “greatly and most agreeably surprised to find there a collection of paintings and engravings which would not be surpassed out of London” (11 Jan. 1845).

⁴⁹ This house in Davey St was centrally and conveniently located, close to the corner of Harrington St. This area boasted a high concentration of well-spaced two-storey houses and was a desirable address (Solomon 149).

January 23rd Thursday. This day 10 years I landed in this town, and went to a Fancy Ball at M^r Stephen's. This morning I go to Government House instead! ...

At a little before 9 o'clock M^{rs} Barnes called for me to go to his Excellency's Soirée. The Mess^{rs} Wilmot received us in the hall – and we next proceeded to the Drawing room, where Sir Eardley met us – He is a fine, gentlemanly old man, but not as much of the “Prince”, as I was given to understand. ... Miss Shaw⁵⁰ was the prettiest and most ladylike girl in the room – as to Miss Sorell, she looked vulgar almost; and springs about in such style! ...

January 25th Saturday. We called yesterday on M^r Bicheno, and found the dear old gentleman at home. William Kemp⁵¹ went with us for a ride in the Domain; and Bessie took a drive with M^{rs} Victor. ... Mess^{rs} Erskine and Kirwan drank tea with us, accompanied by the better half!

M^r E—e is certainly one of the greatest simpletons I have ever met. M^r Kirwan is Irish – & gentlemanly – but rather quieter than his countrymen generally are.⁵²

January 26th Sunday. I went with William to the Catholic chapel⁵³ this morning – and heard a very good sermon from the Vicar-general⁵⁴. [...]

January 29th I went to call on Martha⁵⁵ yesterday, but she was not well enough to be seen – Today we went to a Pic-Nic at Derwent Park⁵⁶ – We all collected at the Custom house⁵⁷ and had to wait some time there, so I proposed going into the Exhibition – and there I met Martha. She is very

⁵⁰ Anne Julia Schaw, second daughter of Major Charles Schaw (q.v.).

⁵¹ Not identified.

⁵² Probably James Woodhouse Kirwan (b. 1816, England), a junior clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office and member of government house staff in the 1840s, appointed private secretary to Eardley-Wilmot 13 July 1846 and Clerk of the Council 20 Mar. 1847 (AE807-1-16 [AOT]).

⁵³ St. Joseph's on the corner of Macquarie and Harrington Sts is the oldest Catholic Church in Hobart. It was designed by former convict James Thomson and built between 1841 and 1843.

⁵⁴ Robert William Willson (1794 -1866) was appointed Vicar-General after Hobart Town was created as a diocese separate to New South Wales in 1842. He arrived in the colony in May 1844. In the 1840s he worked tirelessly to improve conditions in prisons, both in VDL and Norfolk Island (also part of his ministry). In the 1850s he became an effective advocate for humane treatment of the insane. He was well-respected in Hobart Town.

⁵⁵ Martha was the daughter of Thomas Archer (q.v.) and the wife of Robert Quayle Kermode whom she had married at Longford on 10 Nov. 1839. She died in Jan. 1851 leaving a family of six sons.

⁵⁶ “Derwent Park House” was built about 1820 by former convict Thomas Wells (1782-1833) on 65 acres (26.3 hec.) at New Town overlooking Prince of Wales Bay. In 1837 a ferry which crossed the Derwent to Ridsen was established and an inn built at about the same time.

⁵⁷ Customs House, now Parliament House, was built between 1832 and 1840. The Exhibition was held in the Long Room which was the Legislative Council Chamber between 1837 and 1856 (Townsend 62).

thin, and evidently in a weak state. M^r Hazlewood⁵⁸ joined our party, and about 1 o'clock we proceeded to the boats. ... We got to Derwent Park in excellent time – and saw several gentlemen approaching on horseback. We had luncheon on the grass, under some shady trees – and then the ladies went for a walk. When we joined the “lords of the Universe”,⁵⁹ we went up to the house – and there found a Piano, and two very good rooms to dance in. ...

January 30th Thursday. I sat for a long time with Martha this morning, and heard all the news from dear Woolmers, where I have passed so many happy days.

M^{rs} Barnes called. D^r Robertson came to see Bessie, who is very ill today. M^r Erskine called to ask me to dine there today; but Bessie was too ill to leave. William went however, and heard several morsels of scandal.

On Monday last, I went to the Theatre with M^r & M^{rs} Barnes. It was altogether better than I had anticipated – and the house was well filled.⁶⁰ [...]

1st of February. Saturday – Several persons called today to see Bessie, whom I regret to say is very ill.

February 2nd Sunday. I went to breakfast with M^{rs} Barnes, & then accompanied them to St David's church – where I heard an excellent sermon from Bishop Nixon.⁶¹ He has fine language, and voice – but I do'nt exactly like his pronunciation [sic]. ...

February 5th Wednesday. I have not been out much, as I am so anxious to get William's waistcoat done – yet I have had two nice rides. ...

⁵⁸ Charles Hazlewood, a landowner, whom Annie had known in Launceston in the 1830s.

⁵⁹ Version of “Lords of Creation,” an ironic phrase for men (*Macquarie Dictionary*).

⁶⁰ “Mrs Clarke's Benefit” was held on Monday 27 Jan. 1845 at the Royal Victoria Theatre, Campbell Street. The programme included excerpts from Mozart's opera *The Marriage of Figaro* which were performed “for the first time in [this] colony.” The event was patronised by Colonel Elliot. The *CT* reports that the audience “well besprinkled with officers in gay uniforms, [was] one of the most fashionable we have seen for a long time.” Although disappointed at the “curtailment of some of the music in the *Marriage of Figaro*” the correspondent praised Mrs Clarke's rendition of *Susannah* as “excellent” and concluded that “[a]ltogether the evening's entertainment afforded general satisfaction” (28 Jan. 1845).

⁶¹ Frances Russell Nixon (1803-1879) arrived VDL in July 1843 to become the first bishop of the newly proclaimed Diocese of Tasmania. On his arrival St. David's Church, located on the corner of Murray and Macquarie Sts and constructed between 1817 and 1819, was proclaimed a cathedral and Hobart Town a city.

Bessie has not spoken to me for some days – why not, I cannot say. I never met her equal in rudeness, and ill-bred behaviour; yet what other could I expect? I cannot sufficiently lament my darling's ever having married such a truly worthless woman! [...]

February 8th Saturday. My eleventh wedding-day! It was on a Saturday too, that we were married. William gave me four seals that belonged to poor Mama.⁶² [...]

February 14th Friday. This morning at 7 o'clock, William & I, accompanied by William Kemp and the "persevering Genius",⁶³ walked to the New Norfolk Coach Office;⁶⁴ and I took my seat inside of the Coach – with M^{rs} Barnes as next door neighbour; and Mess^{rs} Barnes & Burnett⁶⁵ for Vis-a-vis.⁶⁶ All of us bent on the same errand; that of making ourselves amiable at Sir Eardley Wilmot's *dejeuné*!

The day was very pleasant, and our horses went along merrily – so that we reached New Norfolk in good time, after passing a vehicle laden with 7 ladies – and poor old M^r Burgess⁶⁷ doing escort to them! Alas! what some men have to charge themselves with a good deal! !

We went to M^r Mason's⁶⁸ immediately on our arrival at New Norfolk – where I found Mary Welman⁶⁹ had just landed from "Epping Forest".⁷⁰ She is not half as good looking as Anna – yet is a fine figure; But her hair is so red!

M^{rs} Mason and we two drove up to Sir Eardley's. William & M^r Mason walked.

We found a goodly company collected, sitting in the Verandah of Government Cottage⁷¹ – and Miss Sorell with her bonnet off, to show her good hair.

⁶² AB's mother had died sometime between July 1841-July 1843. The journal record for this period is lost.

⁶³ Used ironically possibly to refer to Mr Kirwan – whom Annie found troublesome.

⁶⁴ New Norfolk is a picturesque town in the Derwent Valley, 22 miles (35.5 km) from Hobart. It was first settled in 1807 after the evacuation of settlers from Norfolk Island. A coach service between Hobart Town and New Norfolk was established in 1829.

⁶⁵ Presumably John Burnett (q.v.) but possibly one of his sons: John Cartwright (b. 1817) or James (b.1800).

⁶⁶ [Sitting] opposite (French)

⁶⁷ Frances Burgess (1793-1864) arrived VDL Sep. 1843 with his wife Amelia (1793-1881) and family, and was appointed Chief Police Magistrate for Hobart Town. He proved an able and efficient administrator of a complex department. He was gazetted a member of the Executive Council in 1843 and in 1847 appointed to the Legislative Council. In 1856 he became an elected member of the Council.

⁶⁸ Thomas Mason (1800-1888), Police Magistrate at New Norfolk, arrived VDL 1829, married Abigail, daughter of Harvey Welman (q.v.) on 25 Apr. 1835 (see entry 25 Apr. 1835).

⁶⁹ Mary Collins Welman, sister of Abigail Mason.

⁷⁰ Small settlement and farming district 28 miles (45 km) from Launceston, named by Governor Lachlan Macquarie in 1811.

The people did nothing but stare at each other – so I walked off with M^{rs} Barnes, to the River; which by the way, is very pretty.

We had luncheon at 2 o'clock in a large tent – and after that, we all walked to the garden – where we eat fruit enormously. After our return, dancing and singing commenced. Mary has a remarkably fine voice – but not modulated sufficiently to please me.

M^r Kirwan made himself so extremely tiresome in wishing me to dance with him, that I determined on [not] doing so at all – accordingly I had to forego that amusement! Odious creature that he is! And I'm as rude as I well can be – and yet he haunts me!

The party went home at 7 o'clock – and then we dressed, and went to M^{rs} Sharland's house to a party. She looks very young and pretty – but snappish. Her sister is my favourite; and sings so sweetly! ⁷²

We returned to M^{rs} Mason's at 12 o'clock – after my passing as stupid a day as I remember to have occurred in my existence!

Miss Seccombe⁷³ had a fall in the Verandah today – owing to M^r Wilmot's placing a chair for her without any seat in it. (She is far from the first of her family, who has fallen through the machinations of Man!) She made a sad exposé, I believe; & only laughed at it – in which her delicate-minded cousin Miss S—I joined at her expense!

February 15th Saturday – The same party returned in the Coach this morning at 7 o'clock – with the exception of M^r Burnett – whose place was filled by dear William.

We found notes of invitation from M^{rs} Burgess⁷⁴ for a dance on Thursday evening – which we accepted. [...]

⁷¹ “[A] neat brick building standing on a hill beside the Derwent River, with a beautiful view of the Derwent Valley” (Alexander 104), built during the administration of Lt-Gov. William Sorell.

⁷² Frances Maria, née Schaw was the wife of William Stanley Sharland (q.v.) and daughter of Major Charles Schaw (q.v.). The Sharland family lived at Woodbridge, a convict-built Georgian mansion constructed in 1825 which Sharland had purchased in 1834.

⁷³ Fanny Maria Seccombe (b. 1827), daughter of William and Sophia Seccombe (see entry 14 Mar. 1834).

⁷⁴ Amelia Burgess (1793-1861), wife of Frances Burgess.

February 17th Monday – Today we went to the Theatre⁷⁵ – Miss Buckland⁷⁶ accompanied us. She is a very nice person indeed – quite superior to any of the young ladies here. M^r Kirwan sat in the box with us – which had at last the effect of sending me to sleep. [...]

February 25th Tuesday. I rode into town very early. I invited myself to M^{rs} Barnes' to coffee and was so delighted to find Mess^{rs} Frazer⁷⁷ and Dry come in soon after my arrival. M^r Frazer is a most agreeable person – and clever, I should say. M^r Dry is as ever – only not as strong as when I first knew him – He owns he has led a wild life since our party left; but now I trust he will recover both his health and property.

How much I could write on this subject – but it might be seen and misunderstood more than even there is any occasion for. William walked home with M^r Dry – and I sat up copying “the Favored Guest” for the same person.

February 26th Wednesday. I rode out early this morning with Clayson,⁷⁸ and purchased a pretty teapot for M^{rs} Barnes – which I presented to her, when William and I went to breakfast with her. M^r Frazer sat with us during that meal, and we then went into his garden, and saw all his beautiful flowers. He kindly made up such a large packet of seeds for me. ...

In the afternoon I walked out with Miss Buckland to shop – M^r Bicheno called, and gave me a pretty telescope – Miss Buckland gave me a ring – and when M^r Dry walked home with me, he gave me such a beautiful little candlestick – which I shall preserve to my latest day. William Kemp passed the evening with us – but I ran down to M^{rs} Barnes' for all that, to say Adieu to them – and met them on my return coming to see me.

I retired to my room early – as I felt miserable.

February 27th Thursday. I started per coach this morning for Launceston – ...

⁷⁵ Mrs Stirling's benefit was held on 17 Feb. at the Royal Victoria Theatre.

⁷⁶ Elizabeth Oke Buckland (q.v.).

⁷⁷ Peter Fraser b. 1808 in Scotland was the son of a clergyman, arrived VDL 1839, Colonial Treasurer 1843-1856. He was an unambitious and retiring man of respectability and integrity, as well as an enthusiastic amateur artist. On 11 Oct. 1848, when on leave in London, he married Mary, second daughter of John Bisdee of Hutton Park, VDL. The two returned to the colony soon after.

⁷⁸ Presumably a servant in the Hadden household.

February 28th Friday. ...In the afternoon, I went out per coach to Longford⁷⁹ – I slept at the Inn there, and intend going to Woolmer's tomorrow.

*February 29th Saturday.*⁸⁰ ...After breakfast, I went to Woolmers with M^r Davies – M^r Archer had gone into Town. – Susan⁸¹ came out – She is much grown – but not at all goodlooking. Miss Cowie⁸² was the same as when I left, only wearing caps! D^r Killgower⁸³ was there – He is something like D^r Mollisson.⁸⁴ Annie Hortle⁸⁵ is very plain – but appears a nice girl. She is shortly to be married to William Archer – whom I now saw for the first time.⁸⁶

I went into M^{rs} Archer's room to see her – and Tom Lyttleton⁸⁷ came in there soon after – and made such a noise; he is a merry, nice fellow – and is I think a spoiled child. His manners are like his father's. Joseph⁸⁸ came home in the evening, after we had returned from a long walk to see some horses. He is goodlooking – and his eyes as gentle as when he was a boy. ...

March 2nd Sunday. ... They have some beautiful paintings in the drawing room – and a fine piano. The Jessamine is grown over the Verandah in such immense quantities, and looks excessively pretty. The garden is not in good order, as the building interferes with it. They are adding three large rooms at the back of the house.⁸⁹ They have reading every evening out of the Bible – and sing Psalms for some time, and prayers at night.

⁷⁹ The small settlement in the centre of the Norfolk Plains farming district, founded 1829, home of many of AB's VDL friends from the 1830s including the Davies and Archer families.

⁸⁰ This date does not exist – 1845 was not a leap year.

⁸¹ Susan Anne Archer (1825-1904), daughter of Thomas Archer (q.v.).

⁸² Not identified, presumably an employee in Thomas Archer's household.

⁸³ John Stewart Kilgour (b. 1816). He and Susan Archer were married 5 May 1847 (Chick 101).

⁸⁴ Patrick Mollison (1807-1842) was a medical practitioner at Port Macquarie with whom Annie had become romantically involved for a short time.

⁸⁵ Ann (1825-1899) was the daughter of James Hortle (b.1799) and Sarah, née Lucas (b.1803).

⁸⁶ William (1820-1874), architect and second son of Thomas Archer, and his cousin Ann Hortle were married on 4 Apr. 1846. William had been educated in England and was absent from the family property in the 1830s when AB was a frequent visitor there.

⁸⁷ Thomas Lyttleton (1826-1876) was the brother of Maria Davies and the third son of William Thomas Lyttleton and his wife Anne. Tom, as he was known, was a frequent visitor to the Hadden household in Hobart Town. He joined the Victoria Police Force in 1852 and was appointed Superintendent of the Melbourne Metropolitan Police Force in the 1860s. He was an amateur artist who specialised in sporting scenes and animal portraiture.

⁸⁸ Joseph Archer (1823-1914), third son of Thomas Archer, who like his brother, William was educated in England.

⁸⁹ Large reception rooms were added to Woolmers in the late 1830s, possibly designed by young William Archer following his return from England.

March 3rd Monday. Tom came over before breakfast for me, & soon after, I took leave of my good friends, and set off for the Parsonage. We started for Launceston in a short time. M^r Davies and I in his carriage; Tom followed us on horseback. Tom drove me down to see M^{rs} Allan⁹⁰ – who was much affected at meeting me. They are very poor she says – having lost all by others villainy! ...

March 4th Tuesday. ... – I went with William in M^r Dry's gig to the Races⁹¹ – before doing so, M^r & M^{rs} Salmon⁹² sat for some time with me. All the folks are trying to persuade me to remain until the *Timbo*⁹³ sails – and how exceedingly my heart inclines to this; yet my Duty will I hope prevail and I may then continue to think myself firm. The Races are on a new course, and very dusty it is! They are well conducted – and tolerably attended. ...

March 5th Wednesday. Last night Mess^{rs} Youl & Tom drank tea with me. William came in before starting for a party at M^{rs} Raven's.⁹⁴ I sat up nearly the whole night, it was so hot – and saw some of the dancing party come home at daylight.

William & M^r Hazlewood tell me that poor “brother Dick” was so dreadfully squiff⁹⁵ – and made the most desperate love to Miss Swan;⁹⁶ which he allows to be the case!

M^r Youl had breakfast with me this morning; and I went again with William to the Races. ... M^r Dry rode “Advertiser” against “The Stranger”, ridden by M^r Wilmot. The latter won easily – and rode prettily – poor M^r Dry was too ill – and I understand spat blood after it. How foolish to trifle in that way with his precious life – when he knows how all value him so much! He won a good race by “Coronet” – which is a noble horse. ...

⁹⁰ Mother of Jessie Allan (q.v.).

⁹¹ The CC (1 Mar. 1845) advertises the annual races would be held over three days beginning on Tuesday 4 Mar. 1845. Richard Dry, A. Rose and C.B. Hardwicke are named as race stewards. The newspaper observes that the “good order and sobriety ... amongst the humbler class of visitors ... rendered the races a real pleasure to those who attended them” and remarks that although the “course was not so well attended as we have seen a Launceston racecourse ... it was [nevertheless] respectably and numerously attended” (8 Mar. 1845).

⁹² Catherine Cameron, née McLeod (b. 1811) and Dr John Richard Duffel Salmon had been AB's neighbours at Perth when Baxter's regiment was stationed there in 1838.

⁹³ The *Timbo* was a schooner owned by Henty & Co., which travelled regularly between Portland Bay and Launceston.

⁹⁴ Mary Anne (b. c. 1819), wife of James Raven (b. 1809), a merchant in Launceston, and daughter of John Swan (1796-1858), a haberdasher in Hobart Town, and his wife Mary, née Cameron (1800-1858).

⁹⁵ Mid-nineteenth-century slang signifying intoxication or drunkenness.

⁹⁶ Probably Maria (b. 1824), a sister of Mary Anne Raven and the fourth daughter of John Swan.

March 6th Thursday. I rose very early – and had a visit from M^r Youl before breakfast. I then went into M^{rs} Welman's – and whilst there, was sent for to go on board the *Minerva*⁹⁷ – which vessel sails in an hour – I met M^r Wilmot, and told him to let William know, which he immediately did – and the dear fellow came down – he said he would come down after he had had breakfast – so as he was going out, I told him he had not kissed me this morning – which he accordingly did – and this was his last in V. D. Land.

I said Adieu to the Welman's – and Tom walked with me to the boat – where I found Captⁿ Fawthorpe.⁹⁸

And this is the way in which I part from those dearest on earth to me – dearer than all the world beside!! But I must have trials as well as others –and why not? [...]

⁹⁷ The *Minerva*, like the *Timbo*, made regular voyages between Portland Bay and Launceston.

⁹⁸ James Fawthorpe was the master of the *Minerva* for varying periods between 1844 and 1848.

Journal 28 November 1846 – 7 February 1847

November 28th Saturday. I'm in dear Launceston once more, & still more happiness in view just now! – how every place reminds me of by-gone days! and happiness never to return! Would it be for the best, were it to do so, I wonder?

Mais revenons à nos moutons.⁹⁹ Captain Milligan of the good Barque *Winchester*¹⁰⁰ kindly gave me up his cabin, and I came over most comfortably. We left Portland on Tuesday night, and arrived here last night; I have suffered very little comparatively speaking, from seasickness, and really do'nt feel much the worse for it. ...

In the double-bedded room, I have a fellow passenger, one Mistress Athy, niece to M^r Mulgrave,¹⁰¹ sister to “Royal Charlie”,¹⁰² and a widow lady bent on committing Matrimony if possible. She amused me verily, in telling me of the enormous charges made at the Hotel in Portland! – “Only imagine, said she, charging 2/6 for a bottle of Ale! – a thing we would only pay 1/- for in London! and there they know how to charge too”! She drank two such glasses of brandy & water on board the Vessel before she started, as she would then not require to order anything at the Inn; and as we were coming to the wharf, she believed herself in Venice in a Gondola!! I ordered tea, and she had another glass of brandy & water for 9^d!! ...

M^r Dry came to see me; he is the same excellent creature I always knew him, and has not his equal in my eyes in this world! It makes me almost happy to know that from the commencement of our acquaintance, he has known me only the same as I first was – I mean in manner, of course.

⁹⁹ Let's get back to the subject (French).

¹⁰⁰ The *Winchester*, en route from London to Launceston, had called into Portland for supplies where it had survived a severe storm which had stranded the schooner *Will Watch* and the brig *Elizabeth* (*Argus* 1 Dec. 1846).

¹⁰¹ Peter Archer Mulgrave (?1778 -1847) arrived in VDL in June 1821. He had a distinguished and active career in public service. Initially appointed as Superintendent of Schools he also served as a magistrate, coroner and Superintendent of Police at Port Dalrymple. He was granted land in Launceston. He was appointed Chief Police Magistrate in 1829 and from 1831 he acted as the Chairman of Quarter Sessions and Commissioner of the Court of Requests at Launceston. He held these positions until 1844.

¹⁰² Not identified.

December 1st Tuesday. On Sunday I dined with M^{rs} Welman – she now resides where M^r & M^{rs} Barnes did formerly did [sic], and which “Residence”, the Major considers the first in the Island.¹⁰³ When I first went in, they evidently thought I should be thunderstruck with its splendour! Anna, is pretty; but the color of her hair spoils her in my eyes. Mary, is very showy. ...

Monday morning I went down to see the Allans and found them not up; I brought the old lady back with me, and she remained until evening when I went as far as the corner of the street with her, and then on to see M^{rs} Priaulx.¹⁰⁴ This little lady looked to me to have an impediment in her speech, owing to some unnatural cause! Emily¹⁰⁵ is grown a nice looking girl with such piercing black eyes. ...

I was musing on the “Past, the present, and the Future”,¹⁰⁶ (Good and Gracious God, dare I think of that time?) when M^{rs} Cox¹⁰⁷ came in with a note for me from William; he cannot come over, and I shall not now go to Hobart Town until Wednesday morning. I shall then see all my old friends here, and yet be in time to make my *début* in the Metropolis at M^{rs} Burgess’ dance Thursday Evening.

Mess^{rs} Sinclair,¹⁰⁸ Craufurd,¹⁰⁹ Jones¹¹⁰ & Milligan¹¹¹ paid me visits today – the latter brought his sister-in-law to see me,¹¹² and she asked me to go with her to the St Andrews Ball,¹¹³

¹⁰³ Trevallyn House was built in 1829 by William Barnes (see entry 14 Feb 1835) on a 6000-acre (2428.1 hec.) land grant on the West Tamar. The original house was a two-storey dwelling, constructed from local stone, hand-sawn weatherboards and split shingles. It was replaced in the late 1840s with a more substantial colonial regency residence. Since the 1830s the Barnes family had lived at Plaisance, Kelso (Richards 43).

¹⁰⁴ Amelia, wife of Henry Priaulx (see entry 26 May 1838).

¹⁰⁵ Emily Hannah (b. 1831), second child and eldest daughter of Amelia and Emily Priaulx.

¹⁰⁶ Possibly an allusion to the title of George Croly’s *Salthiel: A Story of the Past, Present and Future* (1828), which AB had read in Oct. 1837 and which she received as a present from William in Feb. 1849.

¹⁰⁷ Mary Ann Cox, widow of J.E. Cox, and proprietor of the Cornwall hotel and operator of the passenger coach between Hobart Town and Launceston.

¹⁰⁸ John Sinclair of Clairville (see entry 7 Oct. 1837).

¹⁰⁹ Robert Craufurd. AB knew Craufurd from Port Phillip where he was superintendent at Benjamin Boyd’s station Eumerella East in the 1840s. His father was Major Archibald Clifford Blackwell Craufurd of Ardmillan and his brother was James Craufurd, Lord Ardmillan (1805-1876), Solicitor-General of Scotland 1853-1855 and appointed to Scotland’s Court of Session (Supreme Court) in 1855. AB’s journal entries indicate that she considered Craufurd a charming and cultured, if not naive man. He was a frequent visitor to Yambuk and prior to this meeting in VDL some misunderstanding had likely occurred between the two. In her journal entry for 12 May 1846 AB writes that Craufurd “gives me to understand that I’m a thorough heartless Coquette.” He developed a liking for alcohol and his business ventures in the Australian colonies were unsuccessful. He left Eumerella East in late 1846, intending to return to Scotland but AB reports he had money sent to him to “start afresh” (16 Dec. 1846). He reportedly died in Scotland in 1848 (de Serville, *Port* 174).

¹¹⁰ Not identified.

mais non!¹¹⁴ She looks young as she did when first I saw her – yet she has such an unhappy caste of face. ...

December [2nd] Wednesday. Yesterday “Cupid”¹¹⁵ and his wife came into town, accompanied by M^{rs} Reynolds and Miss Cox.¹¹⁶ They kindly offered to take me to the Ball, and as I should not have gone otherwise. ...

We dined late, and went to our several rooms to adorn, and I had the landlady’s, with a fine glass in it. I wore black satin, with a handsome plaid scarf, and it looked very nicely. Miss Cox looked ladylike, and well-dressed.

We did not start until 10 o’clock – M^r Joclyn Thomas¹¹⁷ accompanied us – he is looking as usual. The stewards met us on the steps leading up to M^r Borrodaile’s new Store, and escorted us in. “Jock”, who had come in the morning with an invitation for me, took me in – and called me “a celestial Rose”, which compliment he appeared pleased with. We were just in time for a Quadrille, and M^r Thomas honored me. There were upwards of 300 present, and many pretty women; but to my taste, Miss C. Reilly¹¹⁸ was the “Belle” – some differed however, and flattered me with the title. The music was very good, the ladies well-dressed, and altogether it was a well arranged Party. The Supper was good too; and some of the ladies seemed to think so, for I never saw girls eat as they did.

¹¹¹ Joseph Milligan (1807-1884), surgeon and enthusiastic amateur natural historian, arrived VDL 1831, and occupied a number of important government positions. He married Eliza, second daughter of William Lawrence, in March 1843. She died on Flinders Island 31 July 1844.

¹¹² Mary Ann née Lawrence (c. 1820-1881), wife of Frances Henty (1815-1889).

¹¹³ This ball, organised by members of the St Andrews Club to celebrate the “Anniversary of the Titular Saint of Scotland,” was held in the “large and commodious stores” of Borrodaile, Gore and Company on 1 Dec. 1846.

¹¹⁴ But no (French).

¹¹⁵ James Youl (q.v.).

¹¹⁶ Ann Reynolds née Cox (b. 1816) and Jane (b. 1825) or Rebecca (b. 1826) were sisters of James Youl’s wife, Eliza (née Cox).

¹¹⁷ Jocelyn Thomas (1780-1862) arrived VDL in 1824 with his wife and seven children. He was appointed Colonial Treasurer in 1825 but was dismissed from this office in 1832 under suspicion of misappropriating funds. Thomas protested his innocence, and restored government funds but was required to sell his significant land-holdings to satisfy private creditors. Financially embarrassed, he lived thereafter with his son Bartholomew William at Milford, a 500-acre (202 hec.) property on the South Esk and later at North Downs.

¹¹⁸ Not identified.

M^r Jones, was the handsomest man there; M^r Dry the most recherché;¹¹⁹ the latter is decidedly a male Coquêt, and says something to every girl, in the shape of love! ...

December 3rd Thursday Morning I left in the Coach for Hobart Town – ...¹²⁰ When I got to Bridg[e]water, M^r Lord¹²¹ procured a cup of coffee for me, and I was then quite fresh again. I took a cab from the Office, and found the good folks at dinner, with two Officers of the *Castor*¹²² as their guests. I dressed at once for the Ball at M^{rs} Burgess's, and we all went at about ½ past 9 o'clock.

Bessie is looking better, altho' very thin indeed – she says she is stronger, but has suffered much since I was last here! Louis is grown tall, but thin and delicate looking; Anna-Maria is very active on her legs, but cannot speak – she is nearly as much noticed by her Mama as her brother is: but her Father is as kind to both, as he very well can be. He is looking well, but a little stouter than he was.

We found the rooms at M^{rs} Burgess's crowded by a well-dressed multitude, and numbering upwards of a hundred. She lives where M^r Bicheno did, and the house is prettily furnished.¹²³ I knew many who were there, yet saw quantities of strange faces; Miss Sorell is fallen off exceedingly in her appearance, her two front teeth being decayed alters her very much. ...

Saturday I passed with M^{rs} Barnes, who is kind as ever, and talks of going to England in the *Windermere*;¹²⁴ I wish I could go with them. Their garden is in fine order, and cherries &

¹¹⁹ Sought after (French).

¹²⁰ In the portion of text deleted here AB recounts in some detail the after-ball shenanigans of Dry, Miss Cox and herself.

¹²¹ Possibly James Lord (1808-1881), son of successful landowner and businessman David Lord (1785-1847) and grandson of former convict James Lord (?1757-1824) who was transported for seven years in 1801. James Lord operated a coaching service between Hobart Town and Launceston.

¹²² HMS *Castor* was a 36-gun 1800-ton frigate, arrived VDL 11 Oct. 1836 from Sydney via New Zealand (hereafter NZ) where it had provided support to British troops involved in hostilities with rebel Maori chiefs Te Rauparaha and Te Rangihaeata.

¹²³ Northam Cottage on the New Town Rivulet. Bicheno retained the lease but resided in Davey St (*Courier* 10 Apr. 1856).

¹²⁴ The *Windermere* carried Sir William Denison, who was to be the next Lt.-Gov. of VDL. Its arrival was eagerly anticipated. The vessel, a 601-ton barque commanded by Robert Clunies Ross, departed Portsmouth 17 Oct. 1846 and arrived VDL 25 Jan 1847. When it departed on 18 Mar. 1847, Mr and Mrs G.H. Barnes were among the passengers (*Courier* 31 Oct. 1846; 27 Jan. 1847; 20 Mar. 1847).

strawberries in abundance. M^r Dumeresq¹²⁵ dined with them, and is looking stouter than when I knew him last. ...

Tuesday, we went to hear the 96th Band¹²⁶ in the Gardens,¹²⁷ where the élite had collected to do the same.

Wednesday, I went up early to M^{rs} Burgess's, to tell her that we could not go to Brown's River with the Pic-nic party, but she would not let me return home, and said there should be room in her voiture¹²⁸ for me. Major Wilmott¹²⁹ & M^r Gennis¹³⁰ came up at the time, and I was put into the vehicle, without the slightest wish to go. However, after a time I took the seat on the box beside the Driver, M^r Gennis, and we had a pleasant chat over "England & the English".

The party consisted of nearly 30 individuals, some of them of dubious appearance = these I determined on not knowing. M^r Frazer¹³¹ was there, and I always liked him, so we chatted away right merrily. We sauntered down such a steep hill to the seaside, where several gentlemen were sketching; Miss Burgess¹³² was the only one who did so, of the female part of the community.

We had a tolerable luncheon spread out by M^{rs} Burgess & myself, on a flat rock; after which we left the "lords of the Creation", and rambled about in every direction.

I started up the hill before the rest of the party, with a stick for my helpmate, and got up pretty well, altho' rather heated. We were just started, as we came, when William drove up, and asked me if I would go home with him; but M^r Gennis said he would not lose the best part of his freight, and so I continued where I was. I was deposited in Davey Street, and the rest of the party went up to M^{rs} Burgess's.

¹²⁵ Edward Dumaesq (1802 -1906) was the Surveyor-General 1825-1828 and Police Magistrate at New Norfolk 1828-1833. In 1835 ill-health forced his retirement from government service. He took over Illawarra, an estate near Longford.

¹²⁶ Band of the 1st/96th Regiment of Foot (hereafter 96th Foot) stationed in VDL 1843-1848.

¹²⁷ Government Garden, located on the eastern slope of the Domain, was established in 1818 as the Lieutenant- Governor's garden. It was transferred to the Royal Society in 1844 and open to the public.

¹²⁸ Vehicle (French).

¹²⁹ Major H. Wilmott, Royal Artillery, son of former Lt-Gov. Eardley Wilmot, visited VDL during his father's illness. He died in action 1 Jan 1852 at Fort Peddie, Cape Colony.

¹³⁰ Possibly William Henn Gennys R.N.

¹³¹ Peter Fraser (see entry 25 Feb. 1845).

¹³² Ellen Burgess (c. 1821-1908), daughter of Frances and Amelia Burgess. In Hobart Town she received instruction in drawing and watercolour from John Skinner Prout. Her paintings were included in the 1845 Exhibition of Paintings.

December 11th Friday – I passed today with M^{rs} Barnes – it was certainly uncomfortably warm, and she had scarcely any clothes on at all! ...

December 12th Saturday – ... All this time I've never once mentioned the sad accident that my valued friend Richard Dry met with the day after I left Launceston. He was leaping a fence, when his horse fell with him, and nearly killed him; his life was quite despaired of at first, but he is now out of danger.¹³³ I shall not make any remarks on his silly conduct – for I'm told it was at M^{rs} W—d's request he tried the abominable fence; and all appear pretty well aware of their intimacy; at all events, he is fortunate in having Rivals with and — the lady. I heard a good story about Slippers that disgusted me with the man more than years of dissipation would have done; yet I still love him as I did, and doubt whether his own sisters can love him more purely. ...

Bessie is jealous of M^{rs} Roberts,¹³⁴ and I fear not quite without reason; dear William passes much of his time with her, and I do'nt exactly like her manner with him! I however, told Bessie I thought she had not anything to fear, as I did not imagine she was any other than kind and good-natured. [...]

December 14th Monday. We had very heavy rain yesterday and last night, and it continues slightly today; I had intended returning visits today, but suppose the weather will prevent me. I'm sitting by a fire, shivering, and Bessie wo'nt come near it, but fancies remaining in the other room, where I'm sure she must be nearly perished with the cold. ...

December 16th Wednesday. M^r Craufurd called here this morning, and walked up with me to M^{rs} Barnes and M^{rs} Burgess's; the latter had a great deal to say on "Pic-nics in general, and her last one in particular, and is very disgusted with what the good folks say touching these parties.^[v] We had only just returned, when a tremendous fall of hail and rain came on, so I was very fortunate in being out of it. ...

¹³³ Dry was crushed by his horse and seriously injured in an accident on 4 Dec. 1846. For some days his "case appeared hopeless" (*Launceston Examiner* [hereafter *LE*] 7 Dec. 1846) but the *Courier* of 12 Dec. includes a report from the *LE* of 9 Dec. which indicates that Dry was out of danger.

¹³⁴ Mary Anne Roberts (q.v.).

M^r Dry is recovered sufficiently to go to Quamby, so he'll soon be all right again I trust in God.¹³⁵ ...

December 19th Saturday – On Thursday, M^r Powlett¹³⁶ came up in the morning and sat some time with me: we spoke of “old times”, “old friends”, and passed quite a pleasant three hours. He speaks kindly of M^{rs} Wickham,¹³⁷ and seems to like her; says “she was and is, more sinned against than sinning”, and in fact talks of her as a gentleman should! She is coming over to V. D. Land, to turn all the good folks brains. ...

Today M^{rs} Roberts accompanied William and I for a ride = “Ranger” carried me better than last time, but requires such a steady and continued pull on his mouth; in fact he has no mouth, and harness does not improve it. Bessie, who cannot be amiable for any length of time, has begun again with her remarks; but this time, she finds her match, and I give her as good as she sends.

The country about is looking very pretty and green; the scenery is certainly beautiful, and I often wish I could remain in this country. The Society seems pretty good, if it were not for the vile system of back-biting that is carried on; but nothing else can be expected from persons who sit at home doing nothing, and listening & responding to all kinds of scandal.

I am reading M^r Latrobe's works on America; of course it is the fashion now. I've only seen him once since I came over.¹³⁸

Miss Sorell, the nine days talk, is gone over to stay at George Town with M^{rs} Montague¹³⁹
= I pity the girl very much for some reasons, not having a Mother, for instance – but think her to

¹³⁵ The *Courier* 19 Dec. reports that Dry “continues progressively improving and yesterday proceeded to Quamby”.

¹³⁶ Frederick Armand Powlett (see entry 29 Jan. 1838).

¹³⁷ Natalie Cornalie Wickham was the wife of Francis Dawe Wickham (1805-1890), a prosperous barrister and solicitor of Melbourne. He had been a partner of George Horne in Launceston in the 1830s but left VDL for Melbourne in 1839. AB's journal entry for 10 Apr. 1844 mentions that he had “brought out a pretty Belgian girl as his wife.” AB continues “She is very musical, and sings well – and has all the Vivacity of her nation.”

¹³⁸ Charles Joseph La Trobe (1801-1875) was appointed Administrator of VDL following Eardley-Wilmot's dismissal in Oct. 1846. La Trobe had been appointed Superintendent of Port Phillip in 1839. AB had welcomed La Trobe to her home at Yambuk in May 1845. She describes him as having “an intelligent eye” and “gentlemanly in his manner” but “cruel to his horses ... in riding them so terribly fast” (13 May 1845). The work on America to which AB refers is *The Rambler in North America: 1832-1833* (London, 1835). This work is an account of La Trobe's tour of America as tutor to Count Albert de Portalès. La Trobe would become Victoria's first lieutenant-governor following separation from New South Wales in 1850.

blame in many things. She is very passionate in every way I should say, and from being “behind the scenes” in a few instances I perhaps feel harshly; but can I blame her, (if she love the person) for doing what I would feel an inclination to do in the same case? It would be well indeed if we could judge others as we do ourselves. What would I give to have Marion’s¹⁴⁰ perfectly Christian disposition! ...

D^r Robertson still continues “the standing dish” here with Bessie; I think it is because he is continually grumbling, and abusing others.

December 21st Monday. I went up early to sit with M^{rs} Roberts, and remained there until past 1 o’clock. Just as I was at the house, I met M^{rs} & Miss Burgess and Miss Scott;¹⁴¹ they had come to invite me to go on board of *H.M.S. Castor*, and urged me so strongly, that I made some few alterations in my dress, and went. Captain Graham¹⁴² came off for us, and made himself very amiable, altho’ he does dislike ladies so much. When we reached the Vessel, we found about 150 persons on board; M^r Gennis took me into his safe keeping, and we strayed together, over every part of the Ship = she is in beautiful order, and is ready for what she will I fear soon encounter again, an Engagement with the New Zealanders.¹⁴³

We at length, found our way into the Gun Room, where a nice déjeunè¹⁴⁴ was spread, and many of the good folks enjoying it. ...Dancing commenced, and was carried on with spirit; the ladies looked all amiability – the gentlemen all life! – I was too tired to dance much, but was taken up with a new Chinese musical instrument which one of the men played very well. It is a common piece of wood, with thin strings nailed across – and upon this the man played with two pieces of whalebone, turned up at the end – – [AB includes her drawing of the instrument which resembles a zither] It is remarkably ingenious. ...

¹³⁹ Not identified.

¹⁴⁰ Marion McLeod (q.v.).

¹⁴¹ Probably Lachlana Elizabeth (b. 1824), eldest daughter of Colonial Surgeon James Scott (1791-1837) and his wife Lucy Margharetta, née Davey (1797-1847).

¹⁴² Commander of the *Castor*, received the order Commander of the Bath for service in NZ (*Courier* 9 Dec. 1846).

¹⁴³ The *Castor* sailed 24 Dec. for NZ, leaving Auckland 8 July 1847 for England.

¹⁴⁴ Lunch (French).

All pleasures must end – so this one did at ½ past 6 o’clock, when we commenced our retreat from this “watery elysium”; Captain Graham asked me how high I would wish to go in the chair? I answered “Up to the Moon”! “Hoist away, my men”, said M^r Gennis = and amidst the looks of horror, mirth, and the Boatswain’s whistle, I was taken up to the Main-yard-arm! I could see all the shipping in the Harbour, and the Town, to great advantage, and was sorry to come down so soon! [...]

December 25th Friday and Christmas day. We walked up to our friend’s¹⁴⁵ at 1 o’clock, where we found him awaiting us, we saw all the lions! Dogs, Parrots, flowers, paintings etc – procured quantities of cuttings, and he gave me a Heliotrope and large Fushcia. We remained there until 3 o’clock, when he walked down with us as far as the Corner street.

There is such a chill in the house, it is fearful – come in, in whatever humor you will – your spirits are dampened by that intolerable woman, Bessie! I do pity William from my soul, and wonder at his forbearance & kindness almost. Christmas is colder in some respects at home, but in others I’ll defy it to be! – D^r Robertson, as usual, dined here, and he and Bessie talked away to themselves and their own entire satisfaction.

December 26th Saturday – I went round to M^{rs} Buckland’s,¹⁴⁶ and such a treat in the music way with her daughter. In the afternoon, William and I went round to see M^{rs} Burnett;¹⁴⁷ but she was ill, so I only saw her daughter, who appears agreeable. ...

I am reading Eugene Sue “Matilda”, and like it better than the “Mysteries of Paris” – it is in higher life.¹⁴⁸ ...

On Monday, I believe, we go to Jerusalem¹⁴⁹ – I’d go to Jericho, to avoid my amiable sister-in-law! [...]

¹⁴⁵ Presumably Peter Fraser, who was an enthusiastic amateur artist.

¹⁴⁶ Mrs Charles Buckland, mother of AB’s friend Elizabeth Buckland (q.v.).

¹⁴⁷ Penelope Isabella (b. 1785), the wife of John Burnett (1781-1860) and the third daughter of “convict adventurer,” Sir Henry Browne Hayes (1762-1832) (*ADB*). She was a mother of nine: including AB’s friends Charlotte Burnett (b.1814) and Marianne Jane Campbell [or Mary Anne] Burnett (1823-1870).

¹⁴⁸ Eugene Sue was a wealthy Frenchman with socialist tendencies, who wrote sensational novels in serial form. *Matilda; or the Memoirs of a Young Woman* (London, 1846) and *The Mysteries of Paris* (London: Chapman and Hall, 1845) were among his most successful.

December 28th Monday. We left town at 1 o'clock for Jerusalem, after having a visit from Miss Buckland, who sat with me during breakfast.

We drove to Campagnia, M^r Smith's estate,¹⁵⁰ and took our saddles with us. We found the horses very fiery, and troublesome, and the day oppressive! M^{rs} Smith is a native of St Dominique, and speaks quite with a pretty foreign accent; is languid, kind and hospitable. Miss Smith¹⁵¹ is 16 – nice looking, and agreeable, altho' not pretty. M^r F. Smith, the Barrister was at home, and one forgets his ugly face, in his pleasing manner.¹⁵²

After dinner, we mounted our horses, and M^r F. Smith took us a short road to our track; It was a pleasant evening, and we took our time = we got to Jerusalem at ½ past 8 o'clock. The township is prettily situated; it is merely a village: [...]

December 29th Tuesday. At 1 o'clock, we again mounted our horses for Campagnia = "Ranger" begins to know me, and be more tractable; he is a noble horse certainly, and far easier to ride than my pet. We had exactly an hour and ½ to go the 14 miles, so we did it in 5 minutes under the time.

M^r Smith was at home, and hospitality seems his virtue, as well as his wife's. ... We left our Kind Entertainers at a little to 7 o'clock, after receiving their invite to go again & see them. I drove all the way, and William says in good style = we passed Richmond, where Major Shaw and his family reside = M^r Gregson's,¹⁵³ and several other pretty houses; the evening was delicious,

¹⁴⁹ A town near the source of the Coal River, 28 miles (45 kms) from Hobart now known as Colebrook. William was likely required to visit the Probation Station there.

¹⁵⁰ Francis Smith (c.1788-1855) was a merchant. He arrived in VDL in 1826 with his wife Marie Josephine, née Villeneuve, who was from Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, West Indies and four children. He purchased land on the Coal River in 1829 and renamed it Campania. Quaker missionary, James Backhouse describes Smith as an "intelligent man from the West India Islands, who is improving a beautiful park-like estate" (66).

¹⁵¹ Hester was born in VDL in 1830 and another daughter, Josephine, was born in 1832.

¹⁵² Francis Villeneuve Smith (1819-1909) was the eldest son of Francis and Marie Josephine. He studied law in London, where he was called to the Bar in 1842. He was admitted to the Bar in VDL in 1844. He was well-regarded and held a number of government positions, including crown solicitor from 1848-1854 and solicitor-general 1854-1857. He was premier and attorney-general from 1857 until 1860 and he received a knighthood in 1862. He married Sarah Giles of Launceston in 1851 and they lived at Lindfield, Hobart Town. They had four children.

¹⁵³ Thomas George Gregson (1798-1874) politician, arrived VDL 1821, lived at Restdown near Risdon. One of the "Patrotic Six" he resigned his position on the Legislative Council in Oct. 1845. He was a prominent anti-transportationist and a member of the first elected parliament, becoming premier for a brief

the horses in excellent spirits, ourselves much the same, and we made our way well! William was saying to me “I’m always happy with you”, at the same time he put his arm round my waist, and I turned my face round for a kiss! - I espied a “Padre” just inside a paddock, and he must have been rather entertained with the scene surely, as he would not understand our relationship. ...

December 30th Wednesday – Miss Buckland & M^r H. Maclean¹⁵⁴ came up whilst we were at breakfast, and sat here until it was time to go to M^r White’s¹⁵⁵ Pic-nic down the River; We were called upon by M^{rs} Burgess, who drove us to Mr Butler’s¹⁵⁶ gate, where Miss Burgess & I got out and walked, as the voiture¹⁵⁷ was sadly crowded, and I hate being in the way.

We got down in good time to the wharf, and found about 40 persons collected – the third of whom I did not, nor ever intended, to know. The Steamer soon got under weigh, the folks began to smile, and “off she ~~went~~ goes^[b]” was the word.¹⁵⁸ We met the “Lady Franklin” coming in from Norfolk Island.¹⁵⁹ The day was fine, and the scenery romantic on the one side, (to our Right.) We passed the “Heads”, when some became very sick! I only felt squeamish, and talked it off with Miss Burgess, who is really an agreeable girl.

When we reached the “Huon river”, we landed, & sauntered about for some time = jumped two or three fences, and then sat down on the beach to talk over the affairs of state. ... The dinner was excellent – champagne flying about in fine style! all seemed communicative – and when the deck was cleared for “Action”, it commenced in the “Polka”¹⁶⁰ – “wind and limb”, instead of Gunpowder and grape shot! – eyes brightened, and one or two parties seemed quite

period in 1857. He was a keen amateur artist and his work was included in the Exhibition of January 1845. His house overlooked the Derwent and was close to the Risdon Ferry.

¹⁵⁴ Not identified.

¹⁵⁵ Not identified.

¹⁵⁶ Presumably Gamaliel Butler (1783-1852), a solicitor who arrived VDL in 1824 and lived at Stowell in Battery Point.

¹⁵⁷ Vehicle (French).

¹⁵⁸ In the late 1840s the “iron steamer *Thames*,” conducted public “Pleasure Trips to the Huon River” south west of Hobart. The steamer left the Steam Company’s wharf at 9.00 a.m. and returned the same evening (*Courier* 14 Nov. 1846).

¹⁵⁹ The barque *Lady Franklin*, built at Port Arthur, was used to transport convicts between Norfolk Island and Hobart Town.

¹⁶⁰ An energetic and exuberant dance widely believed to have evolved from a Bohemian folk-dance of the 1830s. The *Times* Paris correspondent described the dance as an “all-absorbing pursuit ... which embraces in its qualities the intimacy of the waltz, with the vivacity of the Irish jig” (qtd. in Rust 73). First danced in England in 1844 it quickly became very popular (Rust 72-4).

happy.... Dancing & singing was carried on with spirit. One of the Musicians sang some sentimental ditties, entitled “If she be not Kind to me”, “I must have loved thee” etc in the most pathetic manner, and looked at M^{rs} Webb¹⁶¹ in a ravenous way! She was busy performing sundry pinches on M^r White’s arms & legs, and too much engrossed to reply to the songster!

We got to Hobart Town at nearly 9 o’clock, and went ashore at the Wharf, after being well pleased with the day’s entertainment. Miss Buckland went off with M^r Mirac¹⁶² – I took dear William’s arm, and Major Wilmott accompanied us as far as the “Private Secretary’s” cottage. Poor Sir Eardley Wilmott is very ill, and heart-broken, and they think he will never survive to go to England.¹⁶³ ...

December 31st Thursday – ... I had been talking of my early friend, Richard Dry today, and thinking still more of him. His name is the last I’ll write on the finishing of /46 – May the Almighty bless and protect him! – I feel so fond of him when I give myself time to think of it; and am so happy to tell the whole world how I have loved him, and how much I still do! Time will never alter me, whatever may become of me – High, low, rich or poor – Richard will for ever remain in my heart. ...

1st of January 1847 Friday. I have just received a note from Miss Buckland, enclosing me an invite from M^{rs} Booth¹⁶⁴ to a Quadrille party on Monday next; and wishing me many happy returns of the Season! Alas! I always dread to look forward to what may become of me in the foregoing years – What Misery, I may still have to endure – and no redress but in — Oh! I’m writing too much of my thoughts – Black and white tho’ they be, I don’t wish them to be read.
[...]

¹⁶¹ Not identified.

¹⁶² Not identified.

¹⁶³ Eardley-Wilmot’s health deteriorated rapidly following his dismissal for alleged improper personal behaviour in Oct. 1846. He maintained his innocence and was well supported by family and friends however he died of “no diagnosed disease” on 3 Feb. 1847 (*ADB*).

¹⁶⁴ Elizabeth Charlotte was the wife of Charles O’Hara Booth (1801-1851), who was commandant at Port Arthur 1833-1844, and after that superintendent at the Queen’s Orphan Schools, New Town. The family lived at Stoke in New Town where Booth died on 11 Aug. 1851.

January 4th Monday. I have written to Harriet by the *Calcutta*¹⁶⁵ – and to Baxter likewise.

Miss Buckland & I have been together all the morning, and paid M^{rs} Green¹⁶⁶ the Dress-maker a visit amongst other things [...]

January 19th Tuesday. Only a fortnight elapsed without my writing in this book = since when, I've been to New Norfolk (this day week by the bye,) in company with Miss Buckland and a Captain Goldsmith of the *Rattler*;¹⁶⁷ I drove all the way there to the amusement of the persons driven.

We breakfasted at M^{rs} Sharland's: she is a pretty little wayward thing, and looks so young to have seven children! Three of the Misses Shaw are staying with their sister, and are ladylike, nice girls. The eldest will in all probability become M^{rs} Robertson, and in such case – I pity her.

After luncheon, we rode to see M^r Sharland's hop-garden; it is very pretty, to see the hops in the stage they are now in, and there appears to be a good crop this season.¹⁶⁸

We visited M^{rs} Meyer on our way, and found her busy "setting her house in order", after a three months visit to M^{rs} Latrobe.¹⁶⁹

Our day passed pleasantly, and in an English way – I mean working, talking, music etc. occupied our time, – and after passing a pleasant day, we started at ½ past 10 o'clock, to return to Hobart. It was a starlight, fine night, the horses travelled very well considering their "Youth & inexperience", and we reached home in tolerable time.

How singularly one's thoughts roam, after being all day in society – and we suddenly start on such a night by ourselves almost! We wrap ourselves up, in shawls & ideas, and from being all life and amusement, we become nearly speechless!

¹⁶⁵ The *Calcutta*, a 484-ton barque traded regularly between Hobart Town and London. The vessel commanded by Richard Wranenmore arrived VDL late Oct. 1846 and sailed 5 Jan. 1847 for London.

¹⁶⁶ Not identified.

¹⁶⁷ The newly built 522-ton barque *Rattler*, commanded by Edward Goldsmith, made its maiden voyage to VDL in 1846. It arrived 11 Nov. 1846 after a voyage of 110 days and sailed for London on 21 Jan. 1847. Goldsmith had previously visited Hobart Town as commander of the *Wave* and was described fondly in local newspapers as "our old friend" (*Courier* 28 Oct. 1846)

¹⁶⁸ Hops were cultivated in the Derwent Valley from the late 1820s and by the 1840s it had become the "premier hop growing region" in the colony (Evans 181). Sharland had been among the pioneer growers. Hops are harvested in late Feb. and early Mar.; by mid-Jan. they would be reaching maturity.

¹⁶⁹ Emma Meyer and her husband Dr John Meyer, both of whom had been friendly with the La Trobe family in Port Phillip, were reportedly guests at Government House, Hobart Town during the three month period that Charles La Trobe was the caretaker administrator of VDL. La Trobe was accompanied to VDL by his wife Sophie and two little daughters (Barnes 66, 74).

It appeared so strange to me, that in a penal Colony, with all descriptions of renegades around us, we travelled our 22 miles on this fine night and only met 2 men the whole time! This too, the land of Bushrangers! The fact is, these Vagabonds are too cowardly to come out at night, and only rob one by daylight! ...

Miss Buckland was with me some time this morning, and lent me a music book. She was telling me that M^{rs} Secombe¹⁷⁰ had given it – to be understood I was not visited on the Launceston side, when I lived there! – what an odious fib! ...

Miss Sorell, it appears before she engaged herself to M^r Chester Wilmot,¹⁷¹ wrote to ask Richard if he considered himself engaged to her? He wrote in answer (so I hear from Miss Sorell) that he should never marry – as he could not love! Ah! yes, he says truly, he is enfin a Roué of the most heartless description – a seducer, a man who ruins women's honor, happiness, eternal welfare! – And for this man I would have given my life, every hope of the future! and still would – altho' my esteem is gone – and he may marry now, if he likes; & may his wife be to him, what he has caused so many to be to their husbands. Before leaving, I'll write to him, and say what I've heard, and what I know! I have power over him, and may it be used as it always was, to his true happiness. [...]¹⁷²

7th of February – Sunday. I commence my journal at the Parsonage, where I arrived yesterday morning; ... I left Hobart Town with much regret, for I've experienced kindness from many persons there. Longford is much improved, and much enlarged; the country is very pretty about there. M^r Davies came to meet me at the door, and Maria close behind him. They were kind as ever, and petted me as usual. Rowley, is grown a fine boy, and like Tom Lyttleton; Annie, the eldest girl is the image of M^r Davies, and rather spoiled I fancy. Emma, the youngest, is a perfect fatty, with fine dark blue eyes. Maria seems in far stronger health than formerly, and is just as happy as ever. M^{rs} Lyttleton is looking very well, altho' she has evidently suffered mentally and is more subdued than ever; her's is a sweet disposition and character = so retiring, meek, and truly

¹⁷⁰ Sophia, née Kemp, was the wife of Colonial Surgeon William Secombe (see entry 14 Mar. 1834).

¹⁷¹ Chester Eardley-Wilmot (see entry 1 Dec. 1844).

¹⁷² Notebook 8 (MS Q181 Item 8) concludes with a 1½-page entry for 31 Jan. 1846. Notebook 9 (MS Q181 Item 9) begins with the entry for 7 Feb. 1847.

amiable. She was telling me much of her anxieties respecting Tom, which I trust may in some measure prove vain. He is still in Sydney, but will return directly; he'll be sadly vexed at not seeing me this time. ...

In the afternoon, we drove over to Woolmers to see M^r Archer, whom I found looking very pale & ill, but in good spirits at seeing me; he is enormously stout, which must be unhealthy, and his breath is much affected by it. Woolmers is such a beautiful place now, the addition to it, is such an improvement: the dining room in particular is very pretty, and the old house is all in bed rooms, so nicely fitted up. ...

I was so sorry to say adieu to M^r Archer, for it is unlikely we shall ever meet again in this, or the next World! He, is so good, charitable, and every way worthy of Heaven – if we may judge.¹⁷³ ...

On Monday morning, we had breakfast early, and started for Launceston soon after; D^r Kilgour¹⁷⁴ accompanied us. M^r Jell,¹⁷⁵ a very good-tempered looking clergyman came in to breakfast; he is Warden of the College, and engaged to Sir John Franklin's daughter. ...

Whilst Maria was sitting with me, M^r Dry came in, and altho' very shocked at his appearance, (for how ill he looks, poor soul!) I was very cool; he evidently observed it, and came afterwards with some of M^{rs} Harrison's¹⁷⁶ wedding cake, & asked me what was the matter with me?

I told him – and we had quite a tiff! Poor fellow! I was very wrong and wicked, to pain so good, so kind a heart! And I most firmly believe what he asserted – “You have believed, and taken the lie of the slanderer”! – Yes! some persons take a pleasure in coining fabrications to make discord. ...

¹⁷³ “If so? why the previous comment” has been written in the same hand as the inscription at the beginning of Notebook 9 (MS Q181 Item 9). (See “Description of Notebooks”.)

¹⁷⁴ John Stewart Kilgour (see entry 29 Feb. 1844).

¹⁷⁵ John Philip Gell (1816-1898) was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge. He arrived in VDL in 1840 and was appointed Warden of Christ College in 1846. Gell was instrumental in the establishment of the college which was located on the Episcopal estate at Bishopsbourne, near Cressy in the colony's north. He left the colony in 1848 and married Eleanor Isabella, only daughter of Sir John Franklin and his first wife Eleanor Anne Porden (*ADB*; Robson 391).

¹⁷⁶ Not identified.

I did not leave Launceston until Wednesday morning, when, just as I was getting my breakfast Captain Fawthrop let me know that he was waiting on the Wharf for me; so after swallowing a hasty breakfast, away I went, and actually found I had been nearly left behind, as the Vessel was some way down the River.

We took in M^{rs} A. Campbell & child,¹⁷⁷ Apples innumerable, and a Pilot somewhere down the River; anchored all night in the Tamar – and on Thursday Morning we were away on “the stormy deep”!¹⁷⁸

¹⁷⁷ The wife of Alexander Campbell (1805-1890), a Port Fairy whaler, master mariner and businessman, and their daughter Flora, described by AB as a “most odious squalling child” (14 Feb. 1847).

¹⁷⁸ Possibly recalls “And thro’ the stormy deep/ Breathe thy own tender calm” from “Ode to Spring” by Anna Laetitia Aiken [Anna Laetitia Barbauld] (1743-1825), published in *Poems* (London: Joseph Andrews, 1773).

FOURTH VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND 26 JULY 1848 – FEBRUARY 1849

Introduction

When Annie returned to Van Diemen's Land for a fourth time in July 1848, she did so not as her brother's guest, but as Bessie's nurse. William had written to Annie in early July with an appeal that she "go over immediately as poor Bessie was dangerously ill" (9 July 1848). Bessie had suffered from consumption for several years and it is likely that William's request for Annie to come to Hobart indicated deterioration in Bessie's condition to the point where death was imminent. The role of nurse was one that traditionally fell to female relatives in the nineteenth century. As Judith Flanders observes, illness and dying were home-based family episodes for middle- and upper-class people in this period: hospitals were patronised by the poor, and professional nurses were presumed to be unreliable and motivated by money rather than compassion. In such homes it was expected that female relatives – usually a mother, a sister or a daughter – would take care of the sick and dying (341-42). But in Bessie's case, the absence of such relatives meant that Annie was expected to perform this role. Although Annie had no hesitation in responding to William's appeal, she had some misgivings about Bessie's willingness to accept her help.

Annie's record of this visit extends to forty thousand words and is written over two volumes of her journal. Many of the entries are lengthy and detailed, incorporating introspection and retrospection along with reportage of daily activity. Although detailed, the entries are not descriptive and provide little understanding of the physical environment in which the record is written. Annie never describes any of the Hobart houses she lives in nor does she locate them precisely; nevertheless, this journal section is sufficiently detailed to be informative about colonial culture in Hobart and the nineteenth century more generally. The record of this visit builds a picture of family and community life in Hobart in the 1840s. It is informative about aspects of regimental, family, servant, social and political life, and it demonstrates the networked nature of the Empire through the circulation of news from elsewhere and documents a robust

consumer culture. More generally, the journal record reflects contemporary attitudes, beliefs and debates about marriage, health and sexuality as well as the gendered expectations of mourning.

Yambuk February 1847 – July 1848

William's request that Annie come to Van Diemen's Land had arrived at an inconvenient time as she had recently begun negotiations for a financial settlement and formal separation from Baxter. Annie had long contemplated leaving Baxter but so far had not enacted any plan or accepted offers of assistance. The catalyst for the recent development was an accusation that Baxter had seduced Ann Broadbent, the "pretty daughter" of the Baxter's dairyman. This incident provided Annie with a "capital chance of Separation" (28 Mar. 1848) as, before the introduction of the Matrimonial Causes Act of 1857 in Britain, a woman needed to prove her husband's adultery and establish either incest, cruelty, bigamy or desertion in order to obtain judicial separation.¹ Judicial separation – heard in ecclesiastical courts (and not available in the Australian colonies) – inevitably involved a public airing of events leading up to the court action. Lawrence Stone suggests that a threat of judicial separation by an aggrieved wife was often just a manoeuvre to improve the financial terms of privately arranged separation agreements (183). And as most people were anxious to avoid publicity of this nature, separation was usually arranged privately by friends. Baxter, obviously anxious to avoid scandal, had agreed to allow their friend and local Port Fairy businessman, William Rutledge, to negotiate a settlement. These discussions were not finalised before Annie's departure. Importantly, Annie had also overcome previous and long-standing religious reservations about leaving her marriage. For many years Annie subscribed to the Christian view that "marriage was a sanctified and indissoluble contract" (Stone 2) which could not be violated. Religious teaching insisted on monogamy, advocated that the marriage bond could only be broken by death and that sex outside marriage was morally wrong (Perkin 20). While Annie subscribed to this view she considered it her Christian duty to remain in her marriage despite the fact that she loathed Baxter. However, in recent times she had come to

¹ Husbands on the other hand were only required to prove adultery.

question this view and on several occasions had both identified with women who remained in unhappy marriages and defended those women who left such marriages. An entry in April, only days after she had mentioned arranging a settlement, expresses quite emphatically her changed point of view: “God pardons, where men dare not! I do’nt think it is wicked to leave a man we cannot love, or commonly esteem ; and instead of one we do love being always in our waking and sleeping thoughts, live with and for him. In most cases the reasons we do’nt go is for fear of the World! – Do we feel the World more than God?” (21 Apr. 1848).

Van Diemen’s Land 26 July 1848 – 18 February 1849

In the weeks following her arrival in Hobart Annie received few visitors and, apart from an occasional afternoon ride, went out very little. Many of her friends appeared preoccupied with their own lives and did not make any special effort to welcome her. Elizabeth Buckland’s “time [was] so occupied with her pupils” (2 Aug. 1848) that she had little time to visit; Anne Schaw, daughter of Charles Schaw the police magistrate at Richmond, was preparing for her marriage to Archdeacon Marriot; and Richard Dry was again heavily involved in politics and did not appear to pay Annie any particular attention. In 1847 Dry had been reappointed to the Legislative Council by the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir William Denison, and was often in Hobart. He was a frequent visitor to William’s house but as he was preoccupied with the politics of anti-transportation (Baker 61-62) and his current consort, Mrs Barrow, he passed little time with Annie. Annie was likewise neglected by William, whose work often took him out of Hobart and who, when in town, continued his romantic involvement with Mrs Roberts.

Medical doctors were frequent visitors to the house to attend Bessie who was likely to have been much more ill than Annie’s observations indicate. Annie was generally unsympathetic towards Bessie and although she did not go so far as to label Bessie a malingerer she constantly undermined the seriousness of her condition. Consumption was widespread in the nineteenth century; its cause was unknown but it was fatal in eighty per cent of cases within five to fifteen years of contraction (Dormandy 22). The disease, although lethal, had a certain “romantic allure”

which rendered it “less abhorred than dreaded” (Lawlor and Suzuki 460). As Susan Sontag has argued, its early symptoms – pallor, flushed (rosy) cheeks and loss of appetite – came to be associated with breeding and distinction and “symbolised an appealing vulnerability and superior sensitivity” increasingly associated with ideal femininity (Sontag 29-30). Such constructions suppressed the agony of the final stages of the disease – characterised by severe shortness of breath and haemoptysis – which Thomas Dormand remarks was often messy and painful (23).

Significantly, Annie wrote nothing to indicate that she was involved in caring for Bessie. Paul Rosenblatt makes the point that women may not always write in their diaries about caring for the sick and dying. He suggests that such an omission may indicate that the diarist did not contribute to nursing, or if they participated, did not think it appropriate to include in their journals (65). However, because of the social expectation that women would perform this role and the condemnation that often accompanied a failure to do so (Flanders 342), it seems unlikely that Annie would have omitted to record her participation in a female role that Barbara Welter observes was revered and important (163) or indeed that she would have declined to nurse Bessie if she was asked. In this respect it is most probable that Annie’s silence in this regard reflects a rebuff from Bessie.

Annie’s health suffered after she agreed to have some teeth extracted while anaesthetised with chloroform. The first attempt was unsuccessful and resulted in hysterics. The performance was repeated two days later with limited success – this time one tooth was taken out but another broke off in her mouth. Perhaps embarrassed and certainly angry at Bessie’s shabby treatment of her, Annie contemplated returning to Port Fairy in mid-August. William, however, persuaded her to remain until after the Birthday Ball at Government House on 25 August. Annie made her exit from Hobart in early September, intending to spend some time with her friends Reverend Robert and Maria Davies in Longford before returning to Yambuk. After a week or so with them, she received news that Bessie was very ill and not expected to live beyond a few days. Annie returned to Hobart on Monday 18 September 1848 to be told that Bessie had died the previous day.

Bessie's death delayed Annie's return to Yambuk by five months. Death, like illness, was the province of women; they were expected to be the chief protagonists of its rituals. Although often not directly involved in funeral arrangements, women were responsible for the arrangement of appropriate clothing and stationery. They were also expected to withdraw from the social world and mourn appropriately. Penny Russell links grief to the performance of the ideal feminine when she argues that "display of grief was a social necessity, and the sincerity and depth of mourning betokened an ideal, loving and loyal feminine heart" (*Wish* 125). She states that in the Victorian era the display should be sentimental but not hysterical; a demonstration of refinement and gentility rather than an hysterical outpouring of emotion (*Wish* 120). Annie mourned Bessie for three months – Leonore Davidoff describes this as an appropriate period of mourning for a sister-in-law (*Best* 55) – during which time she did not attend any dances or dinners. Annie's social interaction was limited initially to visits from close family friends and afternoon rides. Patricia Jalland points out that it was not unusual to idealise the deceased in the period immediately following death, however with time the person would be remembered more realistically and their negative qualities would surface and be accepted (284). (Jalland indicates that idealisation of the dead was prescribed in Mrs John Sherwood's etiquette book *Manners and Social Usages* [311]).

While women mourned, men were encouraged to return to work soon after bereavement and often to seek remarriage (Jalland 251-52). Jalland observes that it "was thought unwise and self-indulgent [for men] to dwell for too long on the recent loss whereas a woman was given little alternative but to confront her loss" day after day for months (257). Annie's journal demonstrates this to be the case: William resumed work, attended a hunt and began to socialise in the evening only weeks after Bessie's death. A month after Bessie's death he passed several days in the country, while Annie, in contrast, refused to attend a dance late in October (six weeks after the event) as "Bessie's death [was] too recent to forget, yet" (22 Oct. 1848). Annie's journal record can be read as testimony to the gendered aspects of the processes of grief and mourning.

In the period of mourning after Bessie's death Annie suffered a number of non-descript complaints and required frequent medical care. Bessie's physician Dr MacWharrie continued to visit to provide this care. Rosenblatt remarks that illness was not uncommon in recently bereaved women in the nineteenth century. He observes that after bereavement women could develop symptoms which either paralleled those of the deceased or recognisable illnesses such as arthritis or colitis (35). Sometimes such symptoms manifested actual disease – often a natural consequence of the exhaustion occasioned by the arduous task of nursing the dying. However, at other times such “illnesses” arose as a result of anger, desire or guilt. Russell suggests that, because such emotions were anathema to the genteel performance of grief, women seemed to have little option but to turn them “inward and express them in the ‘illnesses’ or ‘nervousness’ of their own bodies” (*Wish* 125). Whether this explains Annie's period of invalidism is impossible to say. Certainly illness relieved her of any responsibility for William and the children and ensured she was sympathetically regarded. As Diane Herndl argues, “illness was a way for [a woman] to get the attention, ministrations and affection that were demanded of her but not for her” while at the same time it demonstrated stoicism and piety (28).

Annie's pre-occupation with health gives some insight into local medical culture as well as reflecting widespread contemporary debate about medical issues and women's bodies. Annie's journal for this period chronicles a medical fraternity in Hobart that was anxious to experiment and that was aware of the latest developments in medical care. She indicates that they used chloroform – first used by James Simpson in Edinburgh in late 1847 – as an anaesthetic agent soon after news of its discovery reached the Australian colonies in March 1848. The medical men were informed to the degree that they were aware of the dangers of administering chloroform to those who afflicted with cardiac disease. News of this had only been received locally in June 1848 (Wilson, *One* 118).

More generally Annie's diary reflects the ongoing nineteenth-century debate about the appropriate delivery of healthcare. Women as nurses, herbalists and midwives had traditionally been responsible for treating illness and managing childbirth (Herndl 31); as practitioners they

had manufactured medicines, treated disease and performed minor surgical procedures. Laurel Ulrich indicates that eighteenth-century midwife Martha Ballard had expertise in the manufacture of medicines, could treat diseases such as dysentery and measles and lance an abscess (11). However, as technological advances in medicine – particularly surgery, anaesthetics and childbirth – were made, the traditional role of women was challenged. Physicians were increasingly preferred both for midwifery and the diagnosis and treatment of medical conditions. This was particularly so among wealthier women (Herndl 32). Annie reflects the views of her social group about a number of medical issues. She supports a physician-led model of care for medical treatment generally and for midwifery in particular. She undermines women's ability to care for the sick when she writes "few women understand a sick person" (28 Oct. 1848), and is critical of women attendants in childbirth. Annie's journal also captures women's almost slavish faith in following the instructions of the medical profession.

Whatever the cause of her illness – whether real or imagined – Annie felt constrained by it and towards the end of 1848 her health improved to the point where she was able to assume responsibility for William's household and children. Annie had often indicated that she doubted her suitability as a mother and that she was relieved that she was childless, but as carer for William's children she reveals herself as kind, caring, loving and engaged. She writes affectionately and enthusiastically about her interaction with them and indicates a willingness to include them in her activities. As Annie's health recovered and her period of mourning for Bessie ended she became more involved in social activities. Dr MacWharrie, to whom Annie had become close immediately following Bessie's death, was replaced by Dr Henry Hadley, recently arrived in the colony, as her admirer and friend. In early February, Annie said "Adieu" (28 Jan. 1849) to Hobart and visited a few days in Longford before she returned to Yambuk to organise her affairs – possibly to finalise the negotiations with Baxter for separation and settlement which had been interrupted by her hasty departure in July 1848.

The Journal Record 26 July 1848 – 18 February 1849

Annie's record of this visit to Van Diemen's Land concludes the twelfth and begins the next volume of her journal. The volumes are catalogued as Notebook 10 and Notebook 11 in the Dixon Manuscript Collection. Volume twelve was begun at Yambuk in January 1848; it is a small, hardbound book of 134 leaves which is covered in deep tan artificial leather and its edges are tooled. Annie filled 115 pages of this notebook in seven months at Yambuk, and the remaining pages in just over four months in Hobart. The next volume, which Annie had inscribed "Hobart Town – / 1848/ Vol: 15th" (MS Q181 Item 11) was begun on 10 December 1848; it is similar in size and colour to the previous volume.

Annie began the twelfth volume in January 1848, after a period of six months when she did not keep the journal. She resumed her journal confident that the "long established [would] soon come quite naturally again" (Jan. 1848) but after this initial entry in January she was silent until mid-February when she commenced again. Despite an assertion on this occasion that "[s]omehow I cannot find it in my heart to write up my journal" (14 Feb. 1848), Annie was able to recommence the habit of writing regularly in her diary. Discounting the hiatus in the extant record between July 1841 and July 1843 – a result of the volumes being lent to one of her admirers, Robert Massie, and never returned – this gap represents the most significant to date in Annie's journal record, which had been maintained more or less continuously since it was begun in 1834. Annie's silence at the end of 1847 cannot be explained as a lack of materials, as it could in 1846 when Annie did not have either the means or opportunity to purchase another notebook in which to continue her record. In 1847 Annie's circumstances were somewhat different: her financial situation had improved and she was no longer isolated at Yambuk. Port Fairy could be visited in a day and passersby often called into Yambuk. In this respect neither isolation nor penury were plausible excuses for diary silence and Annie's failure to record her experience in the latter half of 1847 could indicate that she did not intend to continue the practice of journal writing. Indeed the air of finality with which Annie had concluded the eleventh volume of her journal – "Regret, the last word of my Journal! When will it cease" (16 June 1847) – makes this option

conceivable. Perhaps resumption of the journal after an interval is indicative of Annie's commitment to maintaining the record of her life that the journal had thus far constituted.

Lucy Frost observes that in the late 1840s Annie was increasingly concerned to emphasise the literary aspects of her journal (*Journal xxx*) and this is the case for the journal volumes which record this fourth visit to Van Diemen's Land. Overall the tone and quality of the writing is of a standard which indicates that an effort has been made to render individual entries interesting and that they have been constructed with an eye to literary effectiveness. Individual entries are usually self-contained narrative episodes. New "characters" are introduced, punctuation is careful and the language and sayings of others are often included, appropriately, in quotation marks. Some care is taken to provide context and orientate the reader. The volumes are also characterised by experiments with form and style. Annie describes the events surrounding the removal of some of her teeth while anaesthetised in a "scene" in which she is the sometimes unconscious, but mostly hysterical, actor. Her account of Bessie's death is similarly distinguished by experiment. Annie makes this record retrospectively, but uses a recognised diary format to unfold events chronologically. Annie records Bessie's death in an entry made on Thursday 21 September, which was three days after she returned to Hobart from Longford and four days after Bessie's death. However, a section break – an unusual occurrence in Annie's journal – some pages earlier and a second entry for Friday 8 September, which contradicts the first, invites speculation that diary entries are made retrospectively for some days more. Annie's reasons for postponing her record of Bessie's death are not clear. Rosenblatt observes that delays in the reports of death were common occurrences amongst nineteenth-century diarists and attributes the delay both to shock of the death and the pressing practicalities associated with such an event (17). Yet the manner in which Annie communicates the news of Bessie's death suggests that she is exploiting the diary format, in the sense that it allows for the prior delivery of information which was important to Annie but had no place in a record of death, while at the same time providing a space for atmosphere to be built around the important news which is to be divulged. Bessie's

death is socially significant for Annie who wonders “if any of the persons who never called on me before when here, will do so now?” (24 Sep. 1848)

The thirteenth volume of Annie’s journal begins with a detailed nine-page account of a picnic at Brown’s River some eight miles from Hobart. Annie’s description of this account as a “sketch” (10 Dec. 1848) – typically a short descriptive piece of prose popular in magazines and newspapers – establishes the writing as a literary performance that gestures towards a wide, possibly metropolitan, audience rather than a simple record of experience.² Annie provides a lively and detailed account of the day’s proceedings. The tone is chatty, even flippant, while the prose is confident, playful and experimental. The text incorporates French language phrases and literary allusions in a manner intended to emphasise Annie’s sophistication. Frances Burgess, the chief police magistrate and a Legislative Councillor, is likened irreverently to Shakespeare’s comic character Bardolph, while Annie’s observation that “ ‘twas Woman’s, not Heaven’s, breath” that caused the sailing boat *Dido* to battle against a squall recalls a stanza from William Cowper’s eighteenth-century hymn “Human Frailty”: “But oars alone can ne’er prevail/ To reach the distant coast;/ The breath of heaven must swell the sail,/ Or all the toil is lost” (235). The picnic is promoted as a civilised affair which is also unmistakably colonial. The company was respectable, the luncheon was varied and adequate and the guests sat comfortably on pillows and rugs. Annie foregrounds colonial identity through incorporation of “cooe” – a word Richard White argues was recognisably colonial in the metropole by the mid-nineteenth century (113-14). He contends that it was used self-consciously and deliberately by colonials and was synonymous with national performance (109).

² Elizabeth Webby observes that the term “sketch” crops up in many nineteenth-century titles: Louisa Anne Meredith’s *Notes and Sketches of New South Wales* (1842) and James Martin’s *The Australian Sketchbook* (1838). Charles Dickens of course provides a literary model for this genre with *Sketches of Boz* (1839). Webby describes the sketch as a “type of descriptive writing based on observations of people and places” (*Colonial* xiii). As she remarks, this form was used throughout the nineteenth century by Australian writers Marcus Clarke and Henry Lawson. Webby points out that in the early part of the century newspapers and magazines were the primary outlets for a writer wishing to be published in Australia (xii). Annie was familiar with British popular print culture and perhaps she imagined herself contributing to this kind of publication.

It is difficult to say whether Annie's "sketch" ultimately intends to endorse or condemn colonial life. Annie uses inclusive personal pronouns liberally throughout the account of the picnic, indicating a degree of identification with the group and a celebration of colonial life. However, she is present largely as an observer. She entertains her readers with the antics of the respectable young men and women. She relates the misfortunes which befall several of the young ladies and describes the various states of *deshabille* in which they present themselves. Her prose is indulgent and distinguished by largesse but overall she maintains a degree of supercilious detachment indicative of a desire to distinguish her behaviour from that of the younger guests. In this respect she fashions herself as the benevolent observer, separated by maturity and sophistication from the antics of the younger woman, rather than an imperial critic of colonial ways. Significantly, this entry signals a departure from Annie's previous preoccupation with invalidism and her adoption of the role of carer for William and his children.

But Annie's chief literary debt is to the genre of sentimental romance. Annie identifies her twelfth volume as "itself quite a Romance" (8 Dec. 1848). This follows an earlier comment in which she imbues her life with a "stranger than fiction" quality: "[w]hat a Romance the whole of my life has been! It is scarcely to be believed" (27 Feb. 1847). Annie's prose is exaggerated in the style of this genre and she predominantly represents herself as a long-suffering and virtuous woman "bearing up under a burden of [difficulty] that would have incapacitated any less noble being" (Wood 26). At Yambuk she was obviously Baxter's forbearing but abused wife: "Nobody but those who suffer it can tell how much continued chagrin works on one's temper and heart ... but my spirit rises above it all, and I never complain" (7 May 1848). Annie's diary record of the first few weeks in Van Diemen's Land, like that at Yambuk, maintains a focus on her struggles and the ingratitude and neglect of others; no longer occupying the role of long-suffering wife, Annie becomes the ignored relative and friend. Her diary becomes a litany of woe and frustration and reportage of unpleasant and difficult matters far outweighs anything pleasurable. The entry which describes the voyage from Portland to Launceston is distinguished by a sustained tone of annoyance. Annie complains that the passage was "boisterous," the vessel "odious" and

comments that “few persons” would have made such a voyage for a “person who is, and always has been so pointed in her vulgarity to me” (26 July 1848). Writing in Hobart, she intimates William’s indifference and Bessie’s hostility and implies that she was neglected by her friends who were caught up in busy lives. Following Bessie’s death, as Frost suggests, Annie “takes [Bessie’s] place” and “creates herself as a replica of Bessie ... querulous, demanding, wrapped in the pallid mantle of an English lady in Decline” (*Face* 112).

Journal 26 July 1848 – 18 February 1849

July [26th] Wednesday night. Me voici,¹ sitting in my old room at the Cornwall Hotel after a very short, but boisterous passage across the Straits! I'm fairly tired, not having taken off my clothes since Sunday morning, until today = and I really began to feel uneasy, to say the least of it.

What a delightful morning it was yesterday when we were coming up the Tamar! everything looked so sunny and smiling! I don't expect I shall stay long on the other side of the Island, for I understand from Col. Cumberland² that Bessie is well again; and the sole reason that brought me over, was to nurse her, if she required it = and I know that we shall not agree any time.

Few persons would have come over in that odious little Vessel, with not another soul to speak to,³ unable even to take off my clothes and by so doing ruin my health –and this for a person who is, and always has been, so extremely pointed in her vulgarity to me.

July 28th Friday – I determined on remaining in Launceston until today, but intended starting by this morning's coach; it however happened that I was called too late, and "not ready" was placed to my name, & the coach went without me. I this evening go by the Mail.

July 29th Saturday. ... We reached Hobart Town in good time this morning, and I procured a Cab to come up here: William was from home, at New Norfolk, but came home in the afternoon, and was so glad to see me. Bessie is looking far better than I ever saw her look; stouter, and not so hectic.

Louis is a delicate looking child; Annie grown but very thin = she talks so well, & is a nice little pet. ...

¹ This is [me] (French).

² Lieutenant-Colonel O.M. Cumberland, commanding officer of the 96th Foot, arrived VDL Jan. 1843. The headquarters of the regiment had relocated to Launceston from Hobart Town in mid-July 1848 (CT 10 July 1848).

³ AB sailed on the 67-ton schooner *Clarence* commanded by Captain Burt, from Port Fairy to Launceston. The passenger list was "Mrs Baxter, D. Digney, J. Digney, William Bird and child, Mary Hughes and Robert Burnes" (CT 1 Aug. 1848).

July 30th Sunday. William, who dined out last evening, remained late in bed, & I did not rise very early either. About 1 o'clock I accidentally went into the Drawing room, and found Mess^{rs} Clarke⁴ & Dry there; it was a wonder I saw them, for nobody ever told me that M^{rs} Hadden was up, even. There is such a coldness pervading this house, I cannot account for it! The servants all seem strange, and stare at one!

Dear Richard Dry! how it gladdens my heart to see his face once more; how I cling to old friends, old times – associations, all! Good Heavens, who would have a nature like mine, to feel every kindness so keenly, and every bitterness & slight so sadly? The very best feelings⁵ of my heart are lost in untameable Passions! On seeing my old friend I recollected oh! numberless events which were better forgotten by me, as assuredly they are by him; and yet the poor fellow, like me, seems to have some secret grief.– I would like to know if either of us will ever be happy?
...

August 2nd Wednesday. On Monday morning M^r Dry and Miss Buckland came to see me; the latter did not remain long, as her time is so occupied with her pupils –

William drove Bessie out, and M^r Dry stayed and chatted with me, until disagreeable business called him away.⁶ Dear, good soul that he is – not spoiled by the world, altho' so flattered!⁷ But nothing can injure so noble a nature as his. –

Yesterday Mess^{rs} Burnett,⁸ Dry & Clarke dined here; I cannot scarcely account for the wretched feelings that took possession of my mind – so many old & to-be-lamented scenes

⁴ Andrew Clarke [Clark] (1824-1902) was the eldest son of Andrew Clarke (1793-1847), Governor of Western Australia 1846-1847, and his wife Frances Jackson, née Lardner. Clarke was commissioned into the Royal Engineer Corps in 1844 and arrived in VDL in Jan. 1847 with Sir William Denison (see "Biographical Directory" also).

⁵ Superscript in original.

⁶ Dry was reappointed to the Legislative Council in Jan. 1848. The council was due to meet on 1 Sep. 1848 but was delayed due to the resignations of Robert Kermode, Charles Swanston and Roderic O'Connor in Aug.

⁷ Dry was a popular public figure as these remarks in the *Courier* following his riding accident in December 1846 indicate: the "sensation in Launceston, during this period of painful anxiety was that of deep and general depression: of visible gloom. The whole colony will rejoice in the restoration of Mr Dry, not simply from the universal estimation extended to his personal attributes and private worth, but from the qualifications displayed in a past career of usefulness and public spirit" (12 Dec. 1846).

⁸ Probably John Cartwright Burnett (1817-1887), the son of John Burnett (q.v.) and Penelope Isabella (1785-1850). John Cartwright arrived in VDL on 13 Dec. 1832 with his parents. He became Registrar of the

flashed across my mind when looking at Richard Dry, that I was forced to think of my utter loneliness in this world!

Bessie got very cross and rude late in the evening, and altho' very tired, would not go to bed until actually obliged. ...

August 3rd Thursday – M^r Clarke asked me to ride his horse today, and Louis accompanied us. “Judy” is very well-bred, and spirited; but carried me so quietly, that I’m sure she will make a good lady’s horse....

I was vexed in the evening by being told of a story which Bessie says is generally believed here, with regard to myself and M^r Dry; I only wish it were even probable or possible that such a thing could occur = but it is too outré⁹ to think of!

In the morning I walked up to M^{rs} Roberts’ and on my way fell down the hill, when I got a bruise on my elbow. Anna-Maria looked very happy, and is not at all anxious to come home. M^r Roberts¹⁰ has built two very nice rooms, and they are prettily furnished; La dame, is looking better than formerly, rather stouter, which is a decided improvement.

August 4th Friday – This morning the Misses Burnett¹¹ & Shaw¹² made me an early visit = Miss Shaw looks very happy, I suppose with the prospect of a happy marriage = which event takes place on the 26th inst. ...

August 5th Saturday – D^r Macwharrie¹³ sat some time with me this morning, and was joined by D^r Dawson,¹⁴ who came to see M^{rs} Hadden. They did not remain more than 2 minutes with her, and

Court of Requests at New Norfolk in 1838 and was appointed Collector of Customs at Launceston in April 1849. In 1850 he married Ellen (b. 1831), daughter of James Cox (q.v.) of Clarendon.

⁹ Outrageous (French).

¹⁰ John Roberts (1813-1898), solicitor and partner since 1841 with Joseph Allport in the legal firm Allport & Roberts. The Roberts lived in the Allports former home, Fairie Knowe in Liverpool St.

¹¹ Charlotte (b.1814) and Marianne [Mary Anne] Jane Campbell (1823-1870), sisters of John Cartwright Burnett and daughters of John Burnett (q.v.).

¹² Anne Julia, second daughter of Charles Schaw (q.v.), and one or more of her six sisters. Anne Julia married Archdeacon Fitzhubert Marriot (1811-1890), Anglican chaplain at New Norfolk on 26 Sep. 1848 at Richmond.

¹³ Dr MacWharrie (1819-1899) had arrived VDL 12 Jan. 1846 as a member of the regimental medical staff. The *Courier* of 20 Nov. 1847 mentions that he was Assistant Staff Surgeon. AB had met him on her previous visit (1846-1847).

¹⁴ Dr William Dawson transferred from New South Wales Convict Department, arriving VDL July 1848 with his wife. He replaced Dr John Robertson as Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals and was soon

D^r Dawson says she is much better than when he last saw her. He knew Baxter when a boy; and has seen Captⁿ Briggs¹⁵ quite lately: I like the old gentleman's manner, and think I should be pleased to know his wife, too. ...

August 7th Monday –Yesterday morning about 9 o'clock Ada¹⁶ took it into her head to abscond, and did not return until nearly 10 at night; I nearly cried my eyes out, I was so intensely miserable! M^r Smith¹⁷ was so kind, and went everywhere he could think to see for her, and gave the Police notice of her loss = Miss Buckland too, was most anxious for me. Oh! few persons can understand how much I love the poor pet....

I am going to see M^{rs} Smith¹⁸ this morning, but really I would rather stay at home, for I hate the walk.

August 10th Thursday – ... M^{rs} Stanley¹⁹ paid me a visit, she is altered in her appearance, grown coarse; but her manners are cold & ladylike! (Anybody may appear ladylike if they only preserve a cold demeanour!) M^{rs} E. Butler called, but I was just going out so did not speak much to her; she is in great distress about her husband who is in a dangerous state, I believe.²⁰ ...

appointed to the position of Principal Medical Officer. He occupied both positions until his departure for India in early 1852 (AE807/1-6 [AOT]).

¹⁵ William Briggs (q.v.).

¹⁶ AB's greyhound and a gift from Richard Dry.

¹⁷ Presumably James W. Smith, Assistant Commissary General, arrived VDL March 1846 from New South Wales and Norfolk Island. The *Courier* of 26 Aug. 1848 reports that he is "under orders for Hong Kong."

¹⁸ Wife of James W. Smith.

¹⁹ Eliza Clayton, the daughter of a "banker of plebeian origin" (Lubbock 174), married Charles Stanley (b.1819), third son of the Edward Stanley, Bishop of Norwich, and his wife Catherine, née Leycester on 30 Apr. 1846. Charles, educated at Rugby School, joined the Royal Engineers in 1836 and arrived VDL 25 Jan. 1847 as Sir William Denison's Private Secretary. Lady Caroline Denison was a friend of the well-connected Stanley family. Charles Stanley's aunt, Lady Maria Josepha Stanley, visited Eliza and her family at their home in Preston, Lancashire and described Eliza as "tolerably pretty—figure very bad ... awkward in her movements, ... [with] a voice like a vulgar person, who wishes to speak *genteely*" (qtd. in Lubbock 175). His sister Kitty however was "struck ... with the great improvement in Mrs Charles" as she farewelled her brother and his wife in 1846 (Lubbock 176). When the Stanleys arrived they were denied access to the Private Secretary's cottage, then occupied by an ailing Eardley-Wilmot and were forced to live uncomfortably at Government House. The Denisons reportedly treated Eliza with some disdain, however like AB, she was treated kindly by Colonial Secretary Bicheno (Lubbock 193). In VDL the Stanleys socialised with "people recently arrived from home who had not yet lost their English manners and outlook, and with whom they felt they had something in common." Eliza described the colonists as "generally rough and coarse ... with few subjects they can talk about. The men are noisy, and the women awkward and silent" (qtd. in Lubbock 193-94).

²⁰ Martha Sarah, née Asprey, of Mitcham, Surrey, arrived VDL 1835 with her solicitor husband, Edward Paine Butler (b. 1811, London), eldest son of Hobart Town landowner and solicitor, Gamaliel Butler (1783-1852). Edward, a consumptive, died at his home Belle Vue in Fitzroy Place on 2 Feb. 1849, however Mrs

Miss Mary Shaw came to see me with her Father yesterday morning, and asked me to go and see them on Friday when William goes. M^{rs} Roberts came and passed the day with me yesterday; she is good-natured & active, which is quite a treat to find, for everybody seems to be falling asleep with very want of mind and activity. I understand her thoroughly, and am sure she likes William very much.

D^r Macwharrie sat with me a long time, and tried to find out whether I had an affection of the heart, this, by the way, is ascertained in rather a funny way, and almost causes one's heart to beat whether it would or not! He is going to use Chloroform to take out my teeth, and I trust it may have no ill effect.²¹ ...

An invite arrived from Government House yesterday – for the Birthday Ball on the 25th.²² I shall accept it, altho' perhaps I may not go.

August 11th Friday –Yesterday D^{rs} Agnew²³ & Macwharrie came to take out my teeth with the use of chloroform, and as Bessie was very anxious to see me under the influence of that medecine [sic], I sat in the Drawing Room to undergo the pleasing operation! I warned the good people that it was very probable it might have some dis-agreeable results on my nervous system, & after that I sat down in an easy chair to undergo whatever might be deemed requisite. A sort of vinaigrette composed of tin, with a mouth-piece is filled with wadding, and on it placed the chloroform = the Doctor then holds the apparatus to your mouth & you inhale the spirit as much as possible, at the same time your nose is held, which effectually prevents any breath escaping that way. I very soon

Butler's distress on this occasion might have related to the health of her eldest son, Edward Charles, whose death, at the age of twelve years is reported in the *Courier* for 9 Sep. 1848.

²¹ Chloroform, discovered in 1831, was first used as an anaesthetic agent by James Simpson, professor of medicine and midwifery at Edinburgh University, in November 1847. News of his success reached Australia in March 1848 and between April and July of that year its use was reported in the major centres of Sydney and Hobart Town. The first death (in England) from chloroform was reported in Australia in June 1848 and after this physicians were cautioned against its indiscriminate use in cases where heart disease was present (Wilson, *One* 116-18). In this respect MacWharrie's examination was intended to ascertain AB's suitability to undergo the procedure. Early stethoscopes were simple wooden tubes which were monoaural; to conduct a cardiac examination the physician would be required to place his head close to the patient's chest.

²² The annual ball to celebrate the birthday of Queen Victoria was generally held in May; however in 1848 it was postponed "in consequence of the indisposition of Lady Denison" (*Courier* 30 Aug. 1848).

²³ James Wilson Agnew (1815-1901) arrived VDL 1841, and was appointed assistant surgeon in 1845 and later colonial surgeon. In June 1847 Agnew performed the first ether anaesthetic at Her Majesty's General Hospital in Hobart Town (Wilson, *One* 91).

became insensible to pain, but continued all the time to know what was said or done by those in the room. D^r Macwharrie scarified one gum, and was fixing the instrument to take out the tooth, when I went into violent hysterics, and continued to have them until nearly 5 o'clock.

I believe the three gentlemen had enough to do to keep me quiet; it was terrible! Knowing all that was going on, yet unable to prevent it. The pain is nothing, but the feelings are sad! Miss Burnett & M^{rs} Roberts came in for a little while, and when I felt better, I went into the drawing room = where Bessie gave me a laughable account of the "Chloroform scene".²⁴

August 13th Sunday. Friday I was very poorly all day, but recovered in the evening. William went very early to Richmond,²⁵ and drove Miss Burnett up there; they returned in the evening after having a pleasant day. ...

Miss Buckland passed the afternoon with me, and I walked out in the evening with her and William, whilst Louis rode his poney. Bessie continues to suffer from fever, and is very irritable indeed. Really altogether, she is to be pitied. ... Reading "Father Eustace" by M^{rs} Trollope,²⁶ and like it.

August [20th] Sunday – Last Sunday D^{rs} Macwharrie & Agnew came at ½ past 11 o'clock, and we all betook ourselves to William's room. The Chloroform soon took effect, and I do not recollect anything more for fully three hours, when I found D^r Macwharrie sitting on my bed & requesting me to speak, or move my head, neither of which I could comply with.

It was a sad state to be in; to feel every kindness and care, and not be able to even nod in thankfulness! All my feelings were seemingly in full play = frequently a gush of actual tenderness would come over me, and oh! I fancied all sorts of delightful dreams, at the same time fully knew them to be visions! It brings every impulse & feeling into bitter play = and even now, I've not recovered my usual "coolness of heart"!

²⁴ For a perceptive critical discussion of this scene and subsequent journal entries in which AB describes the aftermath of this experiment see Lucy Frost, "Writing Pain: The Case of Annie Baxter" (*Meridian* 10.2 [1991]: 86-89).

²⁵ Situated at the mouth of the Coal River, 15 miles (24 km) from Hobart.

²⁶ Frances Milton Trollope, *Father Eustace: a Tale of the Jesuits*, 3 vols (London, 1847).

My one tooth was taken out, and another one broken in my mouth, neither of these did I feel; so far good. I shall never forget D^r Macwharrie's great kindness! – how he sat with his hands cooling to put them on my head! He is indeed kind hearted, and consequently a favorite of mine.

On Monday I did not get up until after 1, and I then went down to see Bessie; she never said "how are you", or appeared to think for an instant that I had been ill. After sitting with her a short time, I had to go to bed again, and there remain. William was out all day, and I could get nothing to eat and not even a glass of wine. Miss Buckland came in to see me and was so very kind in sending me soft biscuits, etc. William went by the Mail to Oatlands, and returned on Tuesday evening.

Thursday Misses Buckland & Burnett came to see me; the latter was rather disgusted at the manner in which Bessie treated me. They had scarcely gone when M^r Clark came, and brought "Judy" for me; William & I commenced a ride, but the rain came on, and we were obliged to return.

I thanked M^r Clark for the Mare, and he remarked that I had not been out lately = I said I had not been well, and he spoke of the Chloroform, and asked what effect it had the second time on me? I said "Oh far quieter this time"; whereupon Bessie said "D^r Macwharrie said he never knew anybody under the influence of Chloroform to offer resistance; because of course if they did that, they were not insensible"! This was too much altogether, and I immediately fired up at it, and asked her if she for an instant imagines I would feign such a thing? She was like people who talk a great deal of spite. She was frightened and could say nothing but "Oh! no, I did'nt mean that". M^r Clark looked surprised, but it did her good! and actually gave her an appetite for dinner!

I almost determined on going over this week to Launceston; but William said I had better suit my own purpose, and not go until after the Birthday Ball, so I intend doing so. M^{rs} Burgess too has promised to give a dance. ...

August [21st] Monday – I took Annie with me to Miss Burnett's, and sat there until 1 o'clock, when we went for Louis from school.

In the afternoon a Captⁿ Maine²⁷ called; D^r Macwharrie & M^r Clark; The latter drove me to M^r Bicheno's²⁸ = and Bessie went out with M^{rs} Victor²⁹ — a pair of dear creatures!!

August 26th Saturday – How this week has passed! it is that nearly since I wrote in this book = yet I will not accuse myself of laziness, for I've been busy in various ways.

Last night was the Birthday Ball, and we went to Government House at 9 o'clock, there to join the giddy throng! The Avenue was prettily illuminated, and a Guard of Honor stationed in the passage leading to the "reception" room. There were a good many people already there, and all of them standing close to the "Throne". –

Lady Denison was standing by the Lieut: Governor, looking, and doing, [the] amiable; well dressed in a rich white watered silk = she is nice looking but evidently out of her element.³⁰ M^r Clark was acting A.D.C. Captⁿ Denison³¹ being too ill to be present. M^{rs} Stanley was standing just behind the Court, and looking cold & ladylike; I, however, have not found her cold, so should not say it.

Sir William told William he wished the people would move into the other rooms, we therefore commenced doing so, and were followed by a great number of persons.

The band immediately struck up, and the Polka was speedily danced; I sat still one Quadrille & one Valse, and had plenty of dancing without either. M^r Despard³² of the 99th danced a good deal with me, and joined to his nice dancing, he is a good "quiz".³³ M^r Dry & I had a long

²⁷ Not identified; presumably a member of the recently arrived 99th Foot.

²⁸ James Ebenezer Bicheno, Colonial Secretary VDL 1843-1851.

²⁹ Anne Dashwood, née Young, was the wife of James Conway Victor (1792-1864), commanding officer of the Royal Engineer Corps in VDL (see entry 6 Dec. 1844).

³⁰ Alison Alexander suggests that Caroline Denison's elevation had been rapid and that she may indeed have been out of her element (179-81). Charles Stanley, who knew her simply as "one of Mrs Hornsby's daughters" found her "stand-offish," and criticised her social ineptitude: "She behaves like a girl let out of school, and never knows what to do on the simplest occasion" (qtd. in Lubbock 192). Stanley's assessment may have been biased insofar as Caroline Denison treated his wife, Eliza with disdain (Lubbock 192).

³¹ Charles Denison of the 52nd (Oxfordshire) Regiment of Foot, brother to Lt-Gov. William Denison, arrived VDL 25 June 1847. He was commander of the Mounted Police as well as aide-de-camp.

³² Henry Frederick Despard (b.1828), an ensign in the 99th Foot and the son of Major Henry Despard, commanding officer of the regiment in the Australian colonies.

³³ Someone who engages in banter and enjoys a joke.

chat, but I suppose if the truth were known he had previously told M^{rs} Barrow³⁴ that he would do so; he is evidently afraid of her, and she too, so different from what I could ever imagine his loving! She has a fine forehead & eyes = her mouth is hideous, and she does not clean her teeth! = Her figure is bad, her manner boisterous, and her tout ensemble³⁵ that of a low actress! So much for Richard Dry's Flame. She several times brushed past me, stared at me, and at last, after watching us for some time, came and sat down by me.

It was a bad feeling that then possessed me! I thought that such had long since quitted this frail body = but no! I'm only what I was! This I've determined; never to place myself in the same position again, and will not attempt to rival so much purity, Beauty – and in fact M^{rs} Barrow!

To resume; most of the ladies were nicely dressed, and altogether they were well looking. There was a Miss Fenton³⁶ who was considered a Belle, and certainly a fine girl; but there was no decided Belle in my opinion. ...

This morning I was up early copying music to the amazement of Miss Burnett, from whom I sent to borrow a book, and she says I'm a most "wonderful person"! In the afternoon, M^r Clark drove me out to M^r Bicheno's, and had a most delightful chat there; I think M^r Clark is perhaps a little above the common herd; at all events, he would be if he had good examples: – as it is, he leads a too dissipated life altogether, poor fellow!

We met M^r & M^{rs} Barrow, M^r Dry & some one else riding; we then met William, M^{rs} Roberts, 2 Misses Spode,³⁷ and two attendants riding.

I said to a friend of both, "M^r Dry is most decidedly a Victim of M^{rs} Barrow's" – "A very willing one, at all events", was the reply: "He is very successful in his loves", said I – "He

³⁴ Margaret Louisa (b. 1824), ninth daughter of Anthony Fenn Kemp (q.v.), married Samuel Barrow, Assistant Police Magistrate at Bothwell, in 1842 and Stipendiary Magistrate at Norfolk Island. Barrow arrived in VDL Jan. 1842 and married Margaret in June.

³⁵ General effect (French).

³⁶ Georgina Sophia (b. 1836) was the second daughter of Michael Fenton (1789-1874), politician and landowner of Fenton Forest, and his wife Elizabeth Sinclair (née Knox) (1804-1876), widow of Captain Neil Campbell. Georgina's older sister Flora Doyley Fenton (b.1831) had married William Villeneuve Smith, third son of Frances Smith of Campania on 24 Apr. 1848.

³⁷ Mary Garner [Polly] (b. 1825) and Ellen Carr [Nell] (b.1831) were the daughters of Josiah Spode (1790-1858), a landowner and the Chief Police Magistrate 1839-1844. The family arrived VDL in 1821.

deserves to be”, was the answer, “he takes so much pains seeking them”! This is the most true & severe thing I ever heard said of my old acquaintance. [...]

September 2nd Saturday – ... On ~~Fri~~ Thursday I had chloroform again, to no purpose; and today D^r Macwharrie remained an hour & ½ in vain, trying to get my tooth out; I was ashamed of the trouble I gave him, & he is so very patient and kind. Tomorrow I’m to take ether,³⁸ when I trust I may be rid of my tooth. I never described the Dance at M^r Fleming’s,³⁹ which was very agreeable I should think, to several, tho’ not to me!

His house is so very pretty, and handsomely furnished; everything in it denotes comfort & good taste. He was everywhere, trying to do the amiable, and succeeded very well.

The ladies looked remarkably well; so nicely dressed too = and far better than at Government House: I was not in spirits for it, and at the end of the evening, I said & did some cruel, unkind things; they were deserved, to appearance, but upon second thoughts, I had no right to inflict pain. I enjoyed seeing M^{rs} Dawson eat her supper better than anything else there, she[,] what we should say by a horse, “laid her ears back to it” = and eat voraciously.

M^{rs} Barrow paid and received devoted attention to & from Richard Dry; Can he, I wonder, love such a Woman?

September 5th Tuesday. Today I shall go by the Mail, as far as D^r Salmon’s,⁴⁰ to whom I wrote yesterday saying I should do so. ...

I called to say adieu to the Smiths, Burgess’s and M^{rs} McLean.⁴¹ The former were very busy in packing up; M^{rs} Burgess apologized for not having paid me “proper attention”, and seemed really ashamed of herself! – how very singular it is that some persons cannot understand

³⁸ Ethyl or diethyl ether is a colourless, highly flammable and volatile liquid. It was first used as an anaesthetic agent in 1842.

³⁹ Valentine Fleming (1809-1884) arrived VDL 1841. He was Solicitor-General 1844-1851, then Attorney-General 1851-1854. In 1854 he replaced Pedder as Chief Justice and he was knighted in 1856. In 1852 he married AB’s friend Elizabeth Oke Buckland (q.v.). He lived at Holbrook in Davey St

⁴⁰ John Richard Duffell Salmon (see entry 20 Dec. 1836).

⁴¹ Presumably Sarah, née Lord, the wife of George Maclean, arrived VDL 1839, Assistant Commissary General 1839-1842, Deputy Commissary General 1842-1850, Commissary General 1850 until departure on the *Calcutta* on 15 Jan. 1851. The Macleans arrived on the *Derwent* with two children; in 1840 they lived at Vaucluse in Macquarie St.

that I do'nt care about "parties"; at least I would far rather go and pass a day and look at some of Miss B's work than undergo poor M^{rs} Burgess's apologies on the score of inhospitality.

It rained considerably, but I executed all my commissions, and went home, finding Misses Shaw & Burnett sitting with M^{rs} Hadden; the latter is delighted at giving the pattern of a bonnet to Miss Shaw, for the solemn occasion on the 26th of this month, when she becomes M^{rs} Marriott. ...

All my goods and chattels were packed up early, and M^{rs} Roberts came down to sit with me; She, William and I then drove into town, where I paid a few Bills, and said Adieu to Webb's.⁴² After returning home, I ran with dear Ada to her old friend's shop, and gave her a good supper or dinner. M^r Dry came and I am delighted to find he accompanies me this evening to in the Mail.

I was busy, alone, in the dining Room when my kind hearted friend D^r MacWharrie came; he stayed some time, and amused me by saying that should I be ill and require any assistance he could give me, I was to write & let him know = that if I would promise to undergo what he advised & requested, he would certainly go soon to Port Fairy; but, he would be very angry, if when he reached there, I would say "No", to his advice! ...

I felt sorry to say Good-bye to him: he is one of those reserved, cold Scotchmen who are too proud almost to like or love any one but those immediately of their own kin; but who can be so warm hearted & considerate when they meet any one they do like. ...

We dined at 5 o'clock, to enable me to start in good time for the Mail this evening; M^{rs} Roberts remained, and we three had the table to ourselves, thank goodness!

Annie went to Miss Buckland's today, and I hope will remain there for some time, as the poor little creature is sadly neglected at her own home.

We went in a Cab to the Coach Office, and found M^r Dry there before us; Samuel, as the time came for me to go, became so polite & attentive it was quite amusing, thinking no doubt, that I would make him some "present"! but I determined only to give to those who had been civil all

⁴² John Webb operated a catering, restaurant and confectionary establishment in Murray St, Hobart Town.

my stay, and therefore when he told me “Hâda” was very comfortable on the box with him, etc, I said “Thank you” in very measured tones. It will teach him to be more obliging in future to strangers. ...

The Mail soon started, and M^r Dry placed himself in the corner next to me, we covered our feet with the Opossum rug,⁴³ and I did not envy a Being in the World!

How truly glad I felt to be out of that cold, heartless Town, where one never scarcely meets with a smile! In that House, where the very Menials echo back their Mistress’ impertinence! Dear William! I must love you indeed, to place myself in such a self-wounding position – mais c’est passée.⁴⁴ ...

Surely I forgot to mention that we dined on Tuesday at M^{rs} Smith’s where we met three American gentlemen, and very agreeable persons too; The one is Master of the *Montauk* the Yankee Vessel now in harbour, and in which the Smiths go to China.⁴⁵ ...

September 6th Wednesday – I wrote on Monday to tell D^r Salmon I wished him to meet me at “the Bald faced Stag”,⁴⁶ on the road to Launceston, that being the nearest Inn to his house; instead, however, of finding him there, I perceived my own note had not been sent, and added to this the Nile is impassable,⁴⁷ so into town I came, only too happy of the chance.

Of all things (after an agreeable companion) to be wished – for in a Stage Coach of a cool night is an Opossum Rug! I do’nt know what M^r Robertson⁴⁸ would have done without it? and as to ourselves on the back seat, we were enveloped in it! ...

September 8th Friday. ... I went yesterday to dine with M^{rs} C. Henty,⁴⁹ and met M^{rs} Barnes⁵⁰ there; the latter left soon after an early dinner, and we then passed into the garden where they kindly made quite a collection for my parterre.⁵¹

⁴³ “Cloaks made from possum skins were widely worn by Aboriginal people in e. Australia; the settlers [appreciating their warmth] adapted them for other uses” (Frost *Journal* 102).

⁴⁴ But it is passed (French).

⁴⁵ The *Montauk*, 505-tons, commanded by Captain MacMichael arrived VDL 17 Aug. after a voyage of eighty-one days from New York. The vessel departed 16 Sept. for India, via Sydney and Hong Kong. Assistant Commissary General James Smith, his wife and four children were passengers.

⁴⁶ Bald Faced Stag Inn, Cleveland, 31 miles (51 km) south of Launceston and a stopping place for Mrs Cox’s coach service in the 1840s.

⁴⁷ Small river, 31 miles (51 km) in length, which flows into the South Esk between Epping Forest and Perth.

⁴⁸ Not identified.

I sent the cuttings etc, by the *John*⁵² with a note to M^r Wilson⁵³ on the subject.

Today I paid M^{rs} Welman a visit, and sat there some time; she told me she did not expect that I should remain in Hobart Town as long as I did, as she understood M^{rs} Hadden had said she wondered why William had written for me to come over, when he knew how she hated (“that woman”) me!

I wish I could find out what it was she said of me that was so dreadful! now, it is of no use trying to find out = but it appears to me unfriendly not to tell me, as I could refute it, and of course otherwise the report in a quiet way, gains ground!

Well! I went to the Cornwall at 5 o’clock, in the interim I paid M^{rs} Cox a visit, & tried some music. Mr Dry and Captain Conran⁵⁴ asked me to drink tea with them, and I was happy to do so. I think this Officer will be a great acquisition to our Port Phillip society, and he has promised to come down to Port Fairy & see le monde⁵⁵ there. ...

* * *

September [8th] Friday,⁵⁶ yes! today I remained at home, and read or listened to some papers of M^r Dry’s that were to go to Hobart Town for the Council;⁵⁷ what pleasure it would always afford me, to be near to him, and be of use to him! After all, I think our first & earlier impressions are generally best and most lasting – at least in my case they have been. However annoyed I may sometimes feel with this person for instance, still I always find & think him, the most thoroughly amiable, delightful person I ever met = such a gem in this wide waste! – Poor Richard! if he only saw this, how he would laugh.

⁴⁹ Susan, née Boniface (1809-1872), wife of Charles Shum Henty (1807-1864).

⁵⁰ Ann, widow of William Barnes (died 10 Feb. 1847 at Kelso, VDL).

⁵¹ A formal, level garden in which flower beds are aesthetically positioned.

⁵² 49-ton schooner, commanded by Mr McLachlan, sailed 7 Sep. for Portland Bay.

⁵³ James Yelverton Wilson (1809-1875), Anglican clergyman for the Portland region 1842-1867, travelled regularly between Port Fairy and Portland, and frequently passed several days with the Baxters. AB indicates that he sometimes brought letters and supplies (Powling 78-9; Frost, *Journal* 595).

⁵⁴ Lewis Charles Conran, 1/11th (North Devonshire) Regiment of Foot, arrived Hobart Town 1845, the *Courier* 22 July 1848 reports that he is under orders for Melbourne. Resigned his commission in 1853 and settled in Victoria.

⁵⁵ The world (French).

⁵⁶ Second entry with this date, possibly made retrospectively following AB’s return to Hobart Town. (The entry possibly reflects AB’s changed perception of her role following Bessie’s death.)

⁵⁷ The Legislative Council began its spring sitting on 19 Sep. 1848.

M^r Davies came into town for me about 11 o'clock and said we would leave at 4 o'clock; at 2, we proposed all to luncheon together in M^r Dry's room, so we four: Captⁿ Conran, Mess^{rs} Davies & Dry & I had an oyster luncheon = after which I retired to my own room and finished packing.

At 4 o'clock we left town; Ada ran so well by the gig all the way out and did not appear tired at her journey's end.

I found poor Maria in her own room, too ill to come down stairs, as she is suffering terribly from tic douloureux.⁵⁸ M^{rs} Lyttleton looks very well, altho' much older, and is as active as ever, always doing for others, & never thinking of herself! She is a character worthy of studying.

The children are so much grown; Rowley quite a great boy! Annie is pretty, but very pettish – Emma is a little fatty, & so good tempered.

September 16th Saturday. Yesterday was M^r Davies' birthday – he entered his 44th year. I gave him a purse, and made a speech at dinner; he returned thanks in another! ...

Maria came down on Saturday last, but had such a sad attack in the evening of Sunday, she has kept her room ever since, and her bed two days; = I'm in hopes it is leaving her now, as it seems to go to the other side of the face. ...

I received a letter from William on Tuesday telling me how very ill Bessie was; today I had another from him saying she could not last many days. I answered his letter by writing to Miss Burnett & saying, if she thought I could be of any service to the unfortunate invalide, I would go immediately & nurse her: The man who took this note to the Post, brought me back one from D^r MacWharrie in which he wishes me to return to Hobart Town, as he does not imagine it possible Bessie could live out the night on which he writes. (Thursday.)

Of course I have no doubt as to what I must do, as a Christian: yet strange to say, I more than anticipate a rebuff when I get to Hobart Town, which I purpose doing by Monday's coach.

...

⁵⁸ Trigeminal neuralgia (see entry 31 Mar. 1836).

September 21st Thursday. On Monday morning at ½ past 4 o'clock I started from the Deanery with M^r Davies, in the gig; – I left my sweet friend Maria, with reluctance, as I know she likes me with her when ill. Dear Ada, too, I said Adieu to with pain! my pet companion in misery, as in happiness – and always alike to me! Why is it then, that I should not love her? ...

We soon met the Coach, and found the vehicle empty – so in I got, and away went M^r Davies. I was quite alone until I came to Spring Hill,⁵⁹ when strange enough M^{rs} Cahill⁶⁰ got in, and once more we were fellow-travellers, she having gone from Hobart Town in the mail with us the other night. We had no opossum rug tho' this time! – –

A most ludicrous scene ensued at the Inn at Spring Hill, between Father Bond⁶¹ and a woman who came by the Coach in search of her husband; she was complaining to the Padre of her spouse's being unfaithful, and said "Now, Sir, is it not enough to drive a woman mad"? "No!" he returned in very quaint terms "not if he ran away with a dozen other women"! I laughed outright.

I was heartily tired by the time I reached Hobart Town, and was going to procure a Cab, and go up to William's, when the Clerk came and asked me to walk into the Ship Inn.⁶² I did so, and the servant woman first showed me into the Coffee Room, and when I said I had rather not remain there, as some persons seemed on their way in; she then took me into another one, where 5 gentlemen got up from table, – and stared. At last she showed me up stairs, and gave me a hint that Byron always said was so dangerous! "Opportunity"! – –

I sat there for a short time, and William & D^r MacWharrie came in the carriage for me; they had been on board the *Montauk* to see M^r & M^{rs} Smith, and in coming ashore William fell into the River, and got thoroughly drenched. It gave me much pleasure to shake my esteemed friend by the hand; & I really think there was more warmth in his than I recollect before. He is so tiresome! he will appear reserved and cold, when I'm sure his heart is so good & kind.

⁵⁹ Highest point on the road connecting Launceston and Hobart Town, situated south of Jericho, 48 miles (69 km) from Hobart Town and 78 miles (125 km) from Launceston (West 543).

⁶⁰ Not identified.

⁶¹ W. Bond, Catholic priest at Oatlands.

⁶² Family hotel and destination for the day coach from Launceston, situated on the corner of Elizabeth and Collins Sts.

We returned to William's = I asked after Bessie, and was told she was dead! The poor soul had a severe struggle with death, and died almost unconscious of her approaching end. She was attended most affectionately by Miss Burnett thro' her illness – and M^r Fry,⁶³ the clergyman came to see and read to her, when she was unable to answer him!⁶⁴

She asked for me once, and seemed anxious to see me: – I forgive her from my heart whatever she may have said or done, altho' some things she invented have done me serious harm in some opinions! Heaven rest her. She is to be buried on Saturday morning. ...

September 22nd Friday – M^{rs} Roberts passed Tuesday with me, I had to go on board the *Montauk* in the morning to see the Smiths: it is quite pleasing to think how very comfortable they are in their cabins, so much room & space = almost too much for the children.

Miss Buckland came to see me, and has kindly offered to do my bonnet⁶⁵ for me.

On Wednesday the Misses Burnett sat some time with me; Miss Burnett is looking very ill indeed. I suppose it is her long attendance on Bessie has effected this.

September 23rd Saturday – Poor Bessie was buried at 8 o'clock this morning; the funeral was quite private, only about a dozen attending. William, feels & looks lonely! He describes his sensations quite as I should. After living so long a time with a person, even altho' actually miserable with him or her, still if one has any feelings, they must be that we miss a familiar face at least! We then think only of their good qualities, and forget their faults! 'Tis a providential thing it is so.

I went in to see her, and fell down = not with fear of Death, for I hold it to be such sweet repose after a stormy and wretched existence!⁶⁶ and in this case, it looked so like sleep.

⁶³ Henry Phibbs Fry (1807-1874), Anglican clergyman at St George's Church, South Hobart 1843-1849. Initially committed to the traditional church Phibbs became increasingly interested in the Low or Evangelical church. He edited the Anglican Church newspaper, the *Hobart Town Herald* for the period 1845-1846.

⁶⁴ Most High and many Broad Church Anglicans believed it was "important to receive the last Communion from a clergyman on their deathbed. Ideally it should take place after all concerned had accepted that death was inevitable but while the sufferer still retained clear mental faculties" (Jalland 32). The Evangelical preference was for lucidity at death in order to "utter uplifting last words and joyful signs of grace" (Jalland 33).

⁶⁵ Bonnets were traditionally covered in black crape as a sign of mourning.

⁶⁶ AB's attitude reflects the teaching and belief of Victorian Christian Evangelicalism that death was an essential part of life and should be faced without fear (Jalland 3).

But there is an awful stillness; – (the silence of Death –) such a want of reply in the features we have always seen respond to our's! How much, how deeply, I should feel the death of one I really loved! I, who love with such intensity! And oh! what a grievous thing to be obliged to conceal, to hoard up such a feeling. ...

It would be difficult to describe my sensations, every day since I first came here. There is a painfully pleasing thrill comes so frequently, and powerfully thro' my whole system, that it causes me to nearly faint – and sob in the most hysterical manner! If I can only get D^r MacWharrie to understand me, I think he possibly might give me something to, at least, lull the feeling; I'm sure, however, it is mental more than bodily ailment, and may God grant it may soon cease — or it will in my present mode of life, drive me mad! ...

Miss Buckland had luncheon with us today, and soon after she left William drove out the children. Poor little souls! they look so mournful in their black dresses –and are so delighted with them! I shall send William away from home as soon as ever we get into another cottage, it will do him good.

September 24th Sunday. ... I've been wondering if any of the persons who never called on me before when here, will do so now? I shall, in such case, take my time to return their visits; but perhaps, I am reckoning without my host, and shall not be honored by their calls.

D^r Hadley⁶⁷ & M^r Dry called about luncheon, and they went with William for a ride; they both dined with us, and I was quite entertained with the former repeating stories of the “Judge”! He says M^{rs} Marsh⁶⁸ is such a delightful person, and exactly suited to the man she has married.

We sat in the drawing room, and I seemed to miss poor Bessie from her usual place! At ½ past 7 o'clock, I looked at the clock, and thought of her having died that time on the Sunday previous. ...

September 28th Thursday – M^{rs} Roberts passed the day with me yesterday, but I fear I did not entertain her much as I was in so much pain with my head and stomach; how I wish I could make up my mind to have the latter examined, & see if any medical treatment could be of Service.

⁶⁷ Henry Hadley (q.v.).

⁶⁸ Not identified.

D^r MacWharrie came in the afternoon, and had a chat with us all; I like him better every day, almost.

Just before tea Mess^{rs} Roberts & Dry came in from the Hunt at Richmond; they have had good sport rather. I never saw the latter in his hunting costume before; he looks so well with the contrast of red cloth to his jet hair!

William drove the party home, and then sat a short time with D^r Hadley = when he came home I was undressing, and it was amusing the compliments he paid me on my not having altered since I was 15 = and he took me in his arms; & it reminded me of when he used to come into my room of old, and put his face to my neck whilst I was lacing my stays, & say “Oh! you smell so sweetly of pears”! We had a long & confidential talk.

Miss Shaw was married on Tuesday to the Archdeacon Marriott = may they be happy! Last night there was a Dance at Major Shaw’s, at which quantities of ladies would be, the other sex are scarce here.

September 29th Friday. Yesterday M^{rs} Burnett called, and I went out to see her in the carriage; she is coming today with M^{rs} Lillie to look over the house, as she thinks it will answer her. Poor old lady, her’s must be a dreary existence, for she is such an Invalid, & he is so over-bearing in his temper I understand.⁶⁹

D^r MacWharrie sat some time with me, and he appears so amused with my “Overland trip”, I think I shall lend him another volume of my journal.⁷⁰ I have told him to lend the first to D^r Agnew who wished to see it.

M^r Dry came for a few minutes before dinner, and looked very tired, as he indeed said he was; he was up very late this morning, or in bush phrase “saw the small hours in”!

⁶⁹ Penelope Isabella, wife of John Burnett (q.v.), and her daughter Mary Gascoigne Lillie (b.1809), wife of Presbyterian minister, John Lillie (1806-1866).

⁷⁰ AB’s record of her journey overland from Yesabba to Yambuk in 1844 was made in the sixth volume of her journal (Notebook 4 [MS Q181 Item 4]). This volume resembles a published travel narrative insofar as it begins with AB’s departure from Yesabba and concludes with an account of their arrival at Yambuk. AB’s experiences are recorded in a manner suitable for publication and indeed much of this writing finds its way into *Memories*.

William and D^r MacWharrie went down into town, and did not return to dinner until ½ past 6 o'clock – which made John⁷¹ very wrath; I heard him murmur “What's the good of cold fish”? He however, made up for the fish being cool, by seasoning the soup with a little extra pepper!

What intense pain I suffered yesterday; & how I tried to laugh it off! but sometimes it defied me; In the evening William went fast asleep, and the guest & I had the conversation to ourselves. I can forgive him everything or anything, but his admiration of red hair! Oh! I wonder if ever he slept, (or passed the night, I should say,) in the same room as a red-haired person? There is such an exceedingly unpleasant effluvia proceeding from their body, I should be ill if I imagined it even, to myself. Give me brown hair; the skin that it adorns, is sweet with common care! I suppose I'm very fussy, and find fault too often with my fellow mortals, besides Men think so differently to Women! –

Louis went last night with M^r & M^{rs} Roberts to the Circus,⁷² and has not yet returned from school. Anna Maria is very good by herself, no trouble at all; she came down to dinner last evening, and had quite a game with D^r MacWharrie.

William goes to Richmond this evening with M^r Sharland, and returns tomorrow, so we dine early today, before they start. I've promised to go [to] Bessie's grave⁷³ at 2 o'clock, so I shall go, altho' I feel very small inclination to move out, I'm so poorly altogether.

September 30th Saturday. M^{rs} & M^r J. Burnett⁷⁴ came yesterday to see the house; at the same time, M^r Sharland came to dinner = and at 5 o'clock he and William left for Richmond. M^r Dry sat here some time, until in fact, he left himself only 10 minutes to dress in; He looked so tired and pale poor fellow!

D^r MacWharrie came in at luncheon with William, & said I should drive, instead of walk; I blessed him inwardly for it, as I am so thoroughly unfit to do the latter. He is like the rest of

⁷¹ William's cook and servant.

⁷² Mr R. Radford's "Royal Circus" commenced operation in mid-September. The *Courier* for 27 Sep. advertises a "SELECT NIGHT" for the "gentry of Hobart Town" on Thursday 28 Sep.

⁷³ Bessie was interred in St. David's Burial Ground, currently St David's Park, and not far from the Hadden house in lower Davey St.

⁷⁴ John Burnett (q.v) and his wife Penelope.

mankind, no sooner gets one thing than he wishes for another = he likes my second journal, but would like to see the last better! We took the children for a drive round the Domain and home. ...

My leg is painful, and seems as tho' a gathering⁷⁵ were coming under the knee.

October 1st Sunday William & I went to church in the morning, and in the afternoon he went to pay some calls; I sent the children out with Ann, and John went out so the Groom & I were the only two at home. D^r Hadley paid me a visit, he is very talkative & agreeable. The Misses Burnett came in, and Miss Mary-Anne went to afternoon church = Miss Burnett remained to dinner; M^r Dry too came. ...

October 4th Wednesday. On Tuesday I received letters from Baxter, Tom Brown,⁷⁶ and M^r Davies & Maria; the former tells me absolutely nothing, excepting that he hopes I shall be over early next month, as he will be so busy with the 'T'⁷⁷ cattle; our servants are very good he tells me.

Tom writes me a very long letter and says that Baxter has been doing the amiable in his family with great effect, and perhaps it is a good thing: would it not have been as well to have practiced something of the sort in his own formerly? Now, it is too late! ...

Today we went to the Floral Show,⁷⁸ but there was not much there to interest a person with a lame leg; the Band however, played so nicely two things in particular "There is a flower that bloometh"⁷⁹ and "Petal".⁸⁰ M^r Dry was there like a butterfly "sipping sweets from every flower", but looking so unhappy all the time. – poor soul!

I never witnessed anything to the disgusting way in which Miss R. Kemp⁸¹ showed her love for Captain Denison; and wherever the poor man went, there she stood perfectly vis-a-vis⁸²

⁷⁵ "An accumulation of purulent matter; a suppurated swelling" (*OED*).

⁷⁶ Thomas Alexander Browne (1826-1915) had the license for the 32,000-acre (12,950 hec.) Squattlesea Mere close to the Baxter's property from 1844 until 1862. His mother and six sisters had arrived at the property in January 1848 and his father who proved an "an improvident drunkard" followed soon after (Frost, *Face* 99). (See also "Biographical Directory").

⁷⁷ Symbol for a stock brand – possibly the brand for Yambuck.

⁷⁸ The *Courier* of 11 Oct. includes a long report of the Spring Exhibition of the Hobart Town Gardening and Amateur Horticultural Society, held in the recently refurbished Music Hall in Collins Street. The visitors which "comprised the *elite* of Hobart Town" were entertained by the brass band of the 99th.

⁷⁹ Popular song from the opera *Maritana* composed by William Wallace Vincent with a libretto by Edward Fitzball. The opera was first performed in Nov. 1845 at the Theatre Royal, Dury Lane.

⁸⁰ Not identified.

⁸¹ Rosa Matilda Kemp b. 1830, youngest daughter of Anthony Fenn Kemp (q.v.) and his wife Elizabeth (née Riley).

to him! her eyes all the time instead of expressing “maiden modesty”, displayed the grossest feelings:– alas! for Mount Vernon⁸³ – Ver-non, the ladies from thence at all events.

Miss Buckland came in, and remained the rest of the day with me; she commenced reading a most interesting work entitled “Long engagements, a tale of the Affghan War”:⁸⁴ it is so prettily written, I’m sure I shall like it very much. ...

I’ve written to Harriet, Marion, T. Brown and Maria; now this is no joke, as I don’t write short letters. “The Knight of Gwynne”⁸⁵ is getting on well; I like it excessively. Lever is such a gentlemanly writer.

October 6th Friday. ...Yesterday we went for a ride accompanied by M^r & M^{rs} Roberts; we had to come home pretty quickly, as it commenced raining. M^r Dry came in and sat until dinner. ... I was so pleased to hear Richard Dry say he thought he should soon say adieu to the Council;⁸⁶ it only adds to his annoyances, and expenses, and it is composed of great riff-raff from all I can learn. ...

It was so amusing to see M^r Fleming & I today going along, our horses both pulling with all their might = Waverly first, when we got in. It is astonishing how few persons we meet when out; the town is full of nobodies! ...

My back feels so shaken! and my knee pains me very much; I ought not to ride I fear, but I cannot walk, and it is sad to be caged up, always!

⁸² Face to face (French).

⁸³ Mount Vernon at Kempton, built circa 1830, was the family home of Anthony Fenn Kemp (q.v.). Kemp reportedly named the property after George Washington’s home.

⁸⁴ John William Kaye, *Long Engagements; A Tale of the Affghan [sic] Rebellion* (London: Chapman & Hall, 1846). An account of the First Anglo-Afghan War 1839-1842, in which British troops successfully invaded Afghanistan in an effort to expand their field of influence in the region and to check Russian expansion towards the Arabian Sea. British troops captured Kabul in 1839. In January 1842 4,500 troops and 12,000 camp followers forced out of the city by an Afghan uprising were massacred as they retreated towards the British garrison at Jalalabad.

⁸⁵ Charles Lever, *The Knights of Gwynne* (London: Chapman & Hall, 1847).

⁸⁶ At that day’s sitting of the Legislative Council, an amendment proposed by Dry to the “Customs Duties Exemption Bill” had been opposed by Denison who claimed Dry had “adduced erroneous facts.” The amendment was not passed, Dry along with other appointed members – Michael Fenton, John Dunn, Thomas Gregson and John Kerr – had voted for the amendment, while seven members had voted against it (*Courier* 7 Oct. 1848).

October 9th Monday Night. D^r MacWharrie has just left; he came to see my knee, and remained to dinner with us. I do so very much like him! but I sometimes doubt whether even with his seeming good-nature he does not think me a sad plague. ...

October 12th Thursday. Thanks to my natural good spirits I'm "up and doing", otherwise I think, Bed would be my place of abode! I feel so ill at times, that I really am nearly giving in; but then I bring to mind that half the pleasure of my existence would be gone were I to stay in my room! = and so I drag on as usual.

D^r MacWharrie is so kind and attentive, I can never thank him sufficiently for all his trouble. He's naughty tho' not to bring me back my books, as one reading I presume is sufficient.

Miss Buckland sat with me yesterday and today, as she had holidays both mornings: this happened on account of the arrival of the *Calcutta* from London in which Vessel Miss Butler came out, so her sisters obtained a little recreation in consequence.⁸⁷

We have English news to the 10th June, and France, la belle⁸⁸ France, is once more tranquil at least as much so, as Martial Law will make it.

Austria is very unsettled; the Emperor went off for a short time, but was brought back; Whatever he gets, he richly deserves – if only for his cruel treatment of State prisoners!⁸⁹

D^r Belchier is dead;⁹⁰ and Col: Sorrell.⁹¹ The latter family will not be sorry for their mourning, as some persons do say it hides small defects! Pauvre fille!⁹²

Monday M^{rs} Roberts passed the day with me – no! Tuesday I mean; and M^r Roberts dined here: he & William then went to D^r Hadley's for a rubber,⁹³ and M^{rs} Roberts & Eliza⁹⁴ remained

⁸⁷ The *Calcutta*, commanded by Captain Wrangmore, arrived 10 Oct., after leaving London 24 June. Architect Francis Butler, fourth son of Gamaliel Butler and his daughter were among the passengers.

⁸⁸ The beautiful (French).

⁸⁹ AB's report of this intelligence precedes its inclusion in local newspapers. The *CT* (13 Oct.) reports it has received news via the *Calcutta* until 24 June, and will "proceed to place before [its] readers such a summary of the intelligence ... as we think may be of interest."

⁹⁰ The *CT* (13 Oct.) reports the death at Stonehouse, England of Dr Thomas Leopold Belcher, late of the 51st (Kings Own) Light Infantry, aged 30. AB's inclusion of this notice at this time indicates that she had received English newspapers directly and was not reliant upon local newspaper reports of European news.

⁹¹ William Sorell's death is reported in both the *CT* (17 Oct.) and the *Courier* (18 Oct.): "On the 4th June, 1848, Colonel William Sorell, formerly of the forty-third Regiment, and late Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land, in his 74th year."

⁹² Poor girl (French).

the night – the gentlemen going up to M^r Roberts’ to sleep. We went to the Band,⁹⁵ & I was pleased with it. Wednesday we returned visits; I only sent in cards, excepting at M^{rs} Maclean’s⁹⁶ & M^{rs} Burnett’s....

I’ve left the gentlemen down stairs playing whist, and come up to indulge in a quiet chat with my Journal –.

In the morning I drove with Miss Buckland to some shops, but did not get out of the carriage, and yet I felt quite faint when I got home. D^r Hadley was with William in his room, and M^r Lloyd⁹⁷ came in with us, and sat a short time.

They say he is replaced by M^r O’Reilly⁹⁸ in the affections of M^{rs} E. B—d!⁹⁹ ’Tis a loss, no doubt! I presume she thinks he came over to see her, instead of which he was obliged to come to prevent an action being brought against him for the Seduction of one A.G – “to the Attorney-General unknown”!¹⁰⁰ (of course!) This was withdrawn, but the infant production being forthcoming I suppose he will have the felicity of aiding & assisting to maintaining it! After all there is considerable *éclat* in being the Father of a family! – Vive la liberté.¹⁰¹

William drove Mess^{rs} Hadley & Lloyd down into town, and took with him his portmanteau packed for Bothwell,¹⁰² where he is going on Monday, there to stay a week or so, hunting.

⁹³ A set of three (or five) games between the same sides in cards, likely to be whist, a popular nineteenth-century game played with deck of fifty-two cards in which one suit is designated as trumps and points are earned by a partnership according to the number of tricks won.

⁹⁴ Eliza Vicary (b. 1840), eldest daughter of Henry James Vicar (1815-1868) and niece of Mary Anne Roberts (q.v.).

⁹⁵ The *Courier* of 9 Aug. 1848 had announced that the “Band of the 99th Regiment [would] play every Tuesday, at 3 o’clock, near the Flag-staff in the Barack Square, when the public [would] be admitted.”

⁹⁶ Sarah Mary, née Lord, wife of Deputy Commissary General George MacLean. The MacLeans arrived VDL from London on the ship *Derwent* in December 1839. They were accompanied by two daughters and two sons.

⁹⁷ Lieutenant of the 96th Foot, died in India soon after the regiment arrived there.

⁹⁸ Not identified.

⁹⁹ Mary Bedford (q.v.), wife of Edward Bedford (q.v.).

¹⁰⁰ “Attorney General Unknown” appears commonly in newspaper accounts of nineteenth and early twentieth century court proceedings and apparently refers to the unknown party in felonious activity.

¹⁰¹ Long live freedom/ liberty (French).

¹⁰² Town 44 miles (70 km) from Hobart on the eastern bank of the Clyde River in a prosperous farming area. The population in 1850 was 1057 (West 537).

Mess^{rs} Sharland, Hadley & Roberts dined this evening. Talking of this latter person reminds me of the other day looking up rather hastily from my work and seeing he & his wife exchanging very tender looks; I was surprised rather at it, for my idea is that we “cannot serve two masters”! When the gentleman had left, I mentioned something or other that made the wife say “the love is all on his side” meaning her spouse’s; now to me the fact is so repulsive of loving one man, & yielding to another! But these things are common in this World.

Last night came the answer to William’s application to leave to go to England; it was a negative! And with this my hopes of ever seeing England again, end. I fear that I shall be unable to go at all, as my means will be dissipated from not seeing to them myself = and oh! what a lot is in store for me after I return to Port Fairy! Annie will go with me there, and this will prevent my ever moving from home, as I never will leave her. ...

October 13th Friday. Miss Buckland sat here all the morning, and read “long engagements”. After luncheon she left, and dear William read some of “Sam Slick”¹⁰³ to me. He then went out to pay some calls, and D^r MacWharrie sat some time with me; I was so pleased, altho’ I felt so ill! He is a queer mixture of coldness & warmth – the former in his shake of the hand; the latter in his thoughtfulness of me. I’m always glad to see his grave, demure face come in. ...

Whilst writing this, I’m applying leeches to my knee,¹⁰⁴ which he brought for me; Some days ago M^r Dry said to me “Why do’nt you show your knee to D^r MacWharrie? You do’nt like, oh! he sees plenty of legs”! “That’s very well talking” I replied, “but in the first place I have an objection to showing mine; and the next, I do’nt think he would wish to see it”! He looked grave for a second, and then said “Oh! would’nt he”? However, I did make up my mind twice to let him see my knee, and he is so quiet when he touches it, that I do’nt mind him at all. ...

¹⁰³ Thomas Chandler Haliburton, *The Attaché; or, Sam Slick, in England*, 2 vols (London: R. Bentley, 1843).

¹⁰⁴ Leeching or phlebotomy, like bleeding (see note 22 Dec. 1835), was used to rid the body of harmful toxins. Leeches were applied locally to relieve pain. The rationale was that the leech would engorge itself on the “bad blood” and thus relieve pain or inflammation as the case may be (Shorter 122).

I've finished "The Knight of Gwynne", and altho' I like it, I think it inferior to any of Levers' that I've previously read. Tonight I've commenced the Memoirs of poor L.E.L.¹⁰⁵ – and now to bathe my knee!

October 15th Sunday – Miss Burnett passed yesterday with me, and assisted in entertaining the good people of Hobart Town who were pleased to call on me.

We had scarcely left luncheon when Col: and M^{rs} Despard¹⁰⁶ were announced; then Major & M^{rs} Ainsworth¹⁰⁷ = they departed, and M^{rs} E. Bedford,¹⁰⁸ (my favorite) came in! M^{rs} Roberts and Eliza – both of whom went into town with William.

M^{rs} W. Bedford & her daughter¹⁰⁹ came next; how very well the former looks! and the daughter appears such a nice girl. They left, and the two Misses Walker¹¹⁰ & Miss Burgess then came in; M^{rs} Burgess is gone to Fenton Forest¹¹¹ for a week, and left her disconsolate daughter alone, at home!

Last, tho' far from least, came D^r MacWharrie, who gave me sundry hints on not indulging in too much wine, etc! I think he tries to see if he can put me out of temper, and then he would laugh at me, I suppose! It will take a good deal from him to effect this, I like him too well to pout at a word.

William dined out with M^r Dry, and left Miss Burnett & I to our "meditations, fancy free". They both came in at tea time, and M^r Dry was in such a comical humour! I was showing him a brooch that William brought home in the afternoon, and in taking it from my hand he put on a look I've only seen in his face twice before! I'm always grieved to do so. ...

¹⁰⁵ Samuel Laman Blanchard. *Life and Literary Remains of L.E.L.* (Letitia Elizabeth Landon, 1802 -1838), 2 vols (London, 1841).

¹⁰⁶ Colonel Henry Despard (c. 1784-1859), commanding officer of the 99th Foot in the Australian colonies since 1842, and his wife, arrived VDL July 1848 after service in NZ, where he was prominent in actions against rebel Maori leaders.

¹⁰⁷ Major O.D. Ainsworth and his wife Mary Ann Ainsworth (1807-1853). They arrived in VDL from Sydney in early August.

¹⁰⁸ Mary Bedford (q.v.), wife of Edward Samuel Pickard (q.v.).

¹⁰⁹ Mary Ann, née Banks, wife of William John Bedford, brother of Edward Samuel Pickard Bedford (q.v.), and presumably her daughter Mary Anne Elizabeth (b. 1833).

¹¹⁰ Not identified.

¹¹¹ Estate of Michael Fenton (1789-1874), politician and landowner, near New Norfolk.

There is a woman who lives in a cottage opposite, of really tolerable appearance; she is continually at work in a dirty way, with beautiful black hair hanging dishevelled and her pretty feet slip-shod! Why was beauty given her I wonder? Were those white arms formed only to embrace some coarse wretch? Those eyes that could look love so well if only tamed a little from their wild roving? Alas! Woman “thou last and best of God’s creation”, how often art thou born beautiful only to cause & feel misery! How often is thy beauty a curse!

I rather take an interest in this poor creature, and feel quite inclined to moralise when looking at her nursing her little baby – I say to myself Yes! woman, in whatever station you may be, there is one feeling remains pure – ’tis a Mother’s love! ...

October 16th Monday. Whilst William was dressing this morning, Captain Denison sent to give him a seat in his Cab, so he was hurried off, instead of going at 2 o’clock as originally intended.

Last night at ½ past 9, I was amused by his saying he would go and see “Johnson” at his Quarters, and arrange for going by the 4 o’clock coach this morning! I knew who “Johnson” was, and where his rooms were! but with persons who understand one another as thoroughly as he & I do, not a word is uttered on such matters.¹¹²

This morning he was very sleepy, and when he got up, he said the reason why he did not go by the Coach was, that it was blowing so hard, he would have been blown off the Coach nearly! Query? Where was he to feel this severe breeze? ...

October 17th Tuesday. How quickly this month is going! Poor Bessie has been dead one month today; and this morning Ann & I looked over her clothes, and put aside any that may be useful to Annie. Her dresses are handsome, but her linen is bad: she appears not to have cared for the unseen part of her dress! Now I, on the contrary, am so terribly particular with the under clothes, and do’nt care about dresses! Poor soul, she’s gone!

Miss Buckland had luncheon with me, and is to drink tea with me on Wednesday; she is delicate, and yet has to slave on day after day! = how sincerely I feel with her. ...

¹¹² “Johnson” is slang for penis, AB’s inference is not clear here.

M^{rs} Roberts & Eliza came in late, the former asked me to go there on Friday Evening – of course I declined.

M^r Dry came soon after they did, & did not leave until 7 o'clock; he goes with M^r & M^{rs} Kay¹¹³ up to the “Wellington Falls”¹¹⁴ tomorrow, & only starts at 5 o'clock in the morning.

I was looking earnestly at him for some time and he said it was rude to stare! Had he only known what I was thinking at the time, he would not have felt flattered. I was remarking to myself how differently I feel towards him now, from when I came I came [sic] over to Launceston; I have seen and believed, and nothing earthly will ever alter my opinion now! No! I'm a long time before I give credence to anything unpleasant but when I have once seen, 'tis a finale. ...

Miss Burnett sent me Col: Mundy's work on India,¹¹⁵ and a note.

I'm in much better spirits these two days, yet cannot walk, as my leg swells so much. *October 18th Wednesday.* D^r MacWharrie was my first, no! second, visitor today; M^{rs} Roberts came early to ask me to let Eliza to stay the day here, as she was about to start for M^{rs} Booth's.

The doctor came next, and remained some time; he has half promised to dine with me tomorrow, tête-à-tête. It is amusing to see him ponder over the invite whether he should accept it, or not – of course thinking of his “Professional character” being at stake! Ah! well, I do'nt think I shall be the cause of his losing it! 'Tis a good thing to have any character to lose!

He was very obstinate about the Journal, I did not give him credit for so much —

Miss Burnett sat with me after, until very nearly seven; and as she left, Miss Buckland came in to tea; and remained until past 10 o'clock. She read and finished that interesting book on Affghanistan, whilst I did her bag, which she intends for a present to M^{rs} Mclean on her birthday.

How extremely I felt with our poor Army, as we came to their cruel Massacre! Oh! how sad for so many good, fine-hearted men to be so sacrificed – May God avenge them! Would it not

¹¹³ Either Joseph Henry Kay R.N. (1815-1875) and his wife Maria, née Meredith (b.1824) or Joseph Henry's brother William Porden Kay (?1809-1870) and his wife Clara Ann, née Elwall.

¹¹⁴ Picturesque falls on the south-west slopes of Mt. Wellington, a popular but quite arduous excursion from Hobart Town. Guided parties began their journey before sunrise and would not return before 8.00 p.m in the evening.

¹¹⁵ Godfrey Charles Mundy, *Pen and Pencil Sketches, being the Journal of a Tour of Duty in India by Captain Mundy, late aide-de-camp to Lord Combermere*, 2 vols (London: John Murray, 1833).

be hard to return in this instance good for evil, and so “heap coals of fire on their head”?¹¹⁶ Our dear old Corps too, how have they suffered! It is all very well to call a Soldier’s life an easy one; they who say so do’nt think that at any hour they may be called upon to be shot at, and when has a British soldier flinched? At least – how seldom! ’Tis enough to make us proud of our Countrymen to hear of their noble deeds! Our brave soldiers, where can be found their equals? ...

October 22nd Sunday. Dear William returned yesterday in time for dinner; he is looking far better than when he left = and altogether he appears pleased with his trip, especially the “Cooking” at the “Bothwell Castle”!¹¹⁷ ...

On Friday M^{rs} Roberts gave a Dance, & altho’ I had the promise of a bed there for the night, and the pleasure of being rolled up in a Wheelbarrow, still I refused; My reasons were that I was very ill in body & mind = that I knew nobody would be there that I cared to talk to, and poor Bessie’s death is too recent to forget, yet. ...

I got home my Journal yesterday from D^r Agnew, and was amused at his liking one funny little piece in it! such small morceaux show a person’s taste tho’, and how inclined themselves – to Solitude, or Gaiety, Romance, or Reality!

October 26th Thursday. I must not commence with grumbling at what I’ve suffered since last I wrote in this book = but say how truly & really thankful I am to be able to once more do so; How different this time to when I was confined to my bed last! With dear William near me – and my kind, very kind friend D^r MacWharrie to pay me so much attention! I shall ever remember him with the greatest esteem; it is quite absurd how I watch for his coming, and actually think painless, when he is near. So far I’ve written, and must close it, as my eyes ache.

October 28th Saturday – ... Annie has been all the week at Miss Buckland’s, who so kindly took her that she should not worry me; and she has been so good to me, in coming and sitting here, when I’m sure I must be anything but entertaining!

¹¹⁶ From Romans 12: 20: “Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head .”

¹¹⁷ An inn at Bothwell.

Miss Burnett too, is very kind, but I was vexed at her saying that D^r MacWharrie seemed to like torturing me – because he put caustic to my eyes¹¹⁸ – & which was really of so much benefit to them; How few Women understand a sick person! They are all gentleness, but frighten, or try to do so, so often! They will say so gravely to you “Of course you know best whether what you are doing agrees with you, but if I were you, I would try such and such a thing! M^{rs}, or Miss Dash had exactly the same as you have, and did this, or that, and found great relief from it. They will inform you in a confidential manner that they consider you in great danger, and if it were their case they should indeed be anxious – as they are also in your’s!

Ill as I have felt, and do feel, I never have for an instant listened to Quackery, or felt inclined to doubt in any way my good Medical Attendant’s powers; and this I’ve carried to a foolish extent in my own mind as I would have taken, or done anything he ordered.

My eyes being better is such a blessing, as I certainly did feel a little weary of being unable to read, write, or work; and several times had to recollect various persons afflicted for such a length of time – by so doing, I was reconciled to my Fate. D^r MacWharrie said I must have been very sinful to be so afflicted! He is right in this also.

But for the news of the day! On Wednesday M^{rs} Dawson gave a large “Collection” of monde, beginning with M^{rs} Despard, and down to the Polly Spode faction; it is said to have been a crowded assembly, and only twice the number of ladies to gentlemen = and several of the latter who could dance, only sitting still! ...

Miss Schaw¹¹⁹ came into town to the Dance, and on Thursday William took her for a ride on “Waverly”; She and Miss Burnett sat with me yesterday afternoon, and I was entertained by the former being positive in her refusal to go alone to M^{rs} Green, the Dressmaker’s, whilst her friend sat with me! She is what Baxter would term “Spicy”! Talking of this, reminds me that my

¹¹⁸ Caustic soda (sodium hydroxide) is an eye irritant. It is possible that MacWharrie was treating AB’s condition homoeopathically. In such treatments heavily diluted solutions which cause effects similar to the symptoms of which a person complains are administered successively until none of the substance remains. Homoeopathy enjoyed some popularity in the nineteenth century.

¹¹⁹ Maria Susan, third daughter of Charles Schaw (q.v.).

young admirer Miss Bostock¹²⁰ is in V.D. Land. Strange that our gentry should have allowed her come – M^r Sturt, M^r A. Hunter, M^r Rogers, M^r Ritchie,¹²¹ all, all, only flirtations? Well, I did not give them credit for so much keen perception ~ for she is a winning little creature, and possesses such a pair of deep eyes! ...

The *Essington*¹²² was to sail yesterday for Port Fairy, and William wrote to Baxter saying I was too ill to leave, but sent him some English Papers, instead – They will answer as well, I’ve no doubt. Tom¹²³ tells me that he says he shall come over immediately for me! What an absurdity to talk in this way to any one – but it is only to strangers that he does so! His answer to M^r Learmonth¹²⁴ when the latter accused him of making love to the Servant woman at Holman’s¹²⁵ was good! and M^r Learmonth saying to me before him “It is well you’ve come home, for your husband is such an admirer of pretty chambermaids” – “He is welcome”^[r] I said I, [“] to do as he pleases, he had my permission some time since”. ...

October 30th Monday –Yesterday afternoon I got up, and paid the Drawing room a visit; I felt so much better, & was in hopes I was going to be well again – when today I’ve been worse than ever! Altogether it makes me miserable – for it will never do for me to be always ill! M^r Dry came and sat with me a little while yesterday, and then drove to Risden.¹²⁶ ...

D^r MacWharrie returned from New Norfolk at 6 o’clock nearly, and had not seen William – who came in at nearly 8, looking “blown away”, and complaining that the said D^r did not know his own mind two minutes together – in fact, he scarcely believed that the other had been out of town at all! ’Twas quite amusing when they met today in my room, to see, and hear them at each other. They make as much about a drive of 21 miles as we should of 300. The hair looks

¹²⁰ Eliza Anne Bostock (b. 1830), daughter of Robert and Rachel Bostock of Vacluse, Epping Forest. AB describes her as a “warm hearted girl ... thoroughly colonial, altho’ very pretty indeed” (7-9 Mar. 1846, Frost, *Face* 77).

¹²¹ Evelyn Sturt, Alexander Hunter, John Ritchie and Mr Rogers are all from the Port Fairy region.

¹²² The *Essington* sailed from Launceston to Port Fairy and Portland on the evening of Tuesday 24 Oct.

¹²³ Thomas Browne (q.v.).

¹²⁴ William Learmonth (1815-1889), arrived in Portland in 1844 from VDL, licensee of the 39,000-acre (15783 hec.) property Ettrick near Portland 1844-1880, friend of AB’s for the duration of the journal.

¹²⁵ Butcher at Port Fairy or Portland to whom the Baxters sold their cattle and with whom Baxter drank. AB mentions that she “was told a good story of Mr B. and the servant at Holman’s which accounts for a good deal, until now unexplained” (10 Apr. 1848).

¹²⁶ Village opposite Hobart Town at Clarence Plains now known as East Risdon, a ferry which left from Derwent Park, crossed from the Hobart Town side to Risdon.

dishevelled, the whiskers uncurled! the coat dusty, the boots not properly polished! Then they had not their own razors! And who ever knew one man's razor kind enough to shave a friend's beard well? Then again the distance – 21 miles! – they are fatigued, and throw themselves into the first easy chair that presents itself, and flatter themselves they have done what England expects every man to do – his Duty!!

M^r Dry sent me such a beautiful bouquet this morning, and this afternoon came and took William off to dine with him, after which they were to go and see the “Champion”[,]¹²⁷Paddy Sinclair[,]¹²⁷ fight some other deluded wretch. Well, I might take to many amusements before I would think of fighting “for pleasure”! But every man to his taste, say I.

I finished L.E.L.'s Memoirs; It is hard to come to the conclusion that she poisoned herself from unhappiness, when all her letters are teeming with affection for her husband, and she appears so very truthful in all.¹²⁸ As to jealousy of a Native Woman – faugh! one may be disgusted, but never jealous surely. Poor soul! she is to be lamented – dying so suddenly, so young, so talented & beloved! ...

November 9th Thursday. It appears as though some evil “Genius” was forever tormenting and preventing my writing in my dear old book! Illness, however, has been my principal drawback = and being in bed, to one who like myself does not really love it, has made me very low-spirited & I may say, desponding.

I cannot bring myself to enumerate all the small, or great incidents that have passed during this time! I've been greatly vexed at some things that perhaps I had better not even have noticed.

¹²⁷ Sinclair left VDL in 1847 to further his fighting career. The Melbourne *Argus* notes that Sinclair “the renowned pugilist, and new champion of New South Wales” (22 Sep. 1848) was expected in Melbourne, perhaps en route to VDL.

¹²⁸ Letitia Elizabeth Landon, writer and London socialite, died from poisoning in Africa in 1838, the same year in which she had married George Maclean, then chief administrator of the Cape Coast settlement (now Ghana). In London, Landon had been engaged to journalist John Forster, but the relationship ended unhappily amid scandal that she had been improperly involved with several other men. Two months after her arrival in Africa she was found dead in her room with an empty bottle of prussic acid in her hand (*ODNB Online Edition*).

D^r MacWharrie has been unremitting in his attention & kindness = and I think of him with the warmest esteem & gratitude. ...

Yesterday I went with the Misses Burnett & William to hear the Band, and M^r Dry drove us home, (Miss Burnett & myself) as I became very tired & cold; & nearly fainted on my arrival here. ...

All today has been lovely! – it quite made me sigh with impatience to be out again and taking “my canter”. It is all well for quiet-going, stay-at-home folks to be confined to the house now & then ~ but for my more impetuous nature, it quite depresses me!

I’ve got seven such nice ~~Fuchsia~~²s Fuchsias,¹²⁹ of different kinds, and have them in my window = they will be so admired in Yambuck.

November 9th Thursday – It is between 3 and 4 o’clock, now, and I’m sitting in the silence of “sleep”, writing by the fire! I’ve been in downright agony for some time, but am now almost free from pain in my unfortunate face.

Laudanum!¹³⁰ my old comforter, has been had recourse to, and I hope to get some sleep soon.

I’ve finished the book Miss Buckland very kindly lent me, called, “Rose, Blanche & Violet”;¹³¹ it is prettily written – and the second character is so womanly & faulty, that I consider it beautiful! Violet, is more my own stamp, and I can therefore perceive her faults easily. ...

I gave Miss Burnett what William wished me, i.e. the shawl, etc – poor girl! it is very acceptable, for her Papa allows her so small a sum for clothes. ...

It is so strange that I do’nt hear from Baxter again; he certainly is an infamous correspondent, and besides which he & I have little to communicate, apart from actual “home” matters! ...

¹²⁹ Popular ornamental shrub of South American origin, the flowers often have purple-red sepals and characteristically drooping flowers.

¹³⁰ Alcoholic tincture of opium usually infused with spices cinnamon or saffron, freely available and used variously as a painkiller or sedative.

¹³¹ George Henry Lewes, *Rose, Blanche and Violet*, 2 vols (London: Smith, Elder, 1848). Blanche is beautiful and has a “shy, retiring disposition” (1: 204) which makes her susceptible to deceit and manipulation, whereas Violet is “fiery and passionate,” striking rather than beautiful and distinguished by an “astonishing energy and imperious will” and a “certain impetuous haughtiness of demeanour” (1: 145).

Annie is gone to stay a few days with M^{rs} Roberts; I think change of air does her good poor little thing, besides which I know I'm unfit to keep them both in "order" now. Louis is a dear child – so manly & yet docile; and a sweet disposition & temper. ...

Last night by the bye, M^{rs} Allport¹³² gave a party; William told me at dinner that she had advised M^{rs} Roberts not to associate with me – for fear of contamination I presume! I cannot conceive whatever possessed her to set her face against me! It's too absurd by half. ...

Poor Bessie! such kind letters have come to her from home – and all of her friends think she is getting well! So much for the kindness of people telling them she was recovering!

Sometimes I fancy my illness is Decline, for I'm always planning what I will do when I get better = then again I too well know what the origin was, and know very well there is now no cure for it – and all caused from over delicacy. (Shall I say False?) ...

I wonder if Baxter will object very much to my returning here in February or March? it certainly will be lonely for him in the bush without me = but positively I'm too ill to be worried by him; and now that he has good servants – he can do without me. I will advance him money too, and so put him in humour!

November 12th Sunday – ...I was angry this afternoon about Annie, and vexed that William should [be] so absurdly "taken up" by M^{rs} Roberts' society to forget even his own child = for he promised Louis to take him out this afternoon, and never came until after 5 o'clock. 'Tis a thing I never did, or ever do, let me have whatever influence I might have with any man = to cause him to neglect those near him, in any way. He says she seldom speaks –so their time must pass pleasantly in other ways, for he is constantly there. ...

November 13th Monday. ... I was looking over my old journal kept in Port Macquarie, and it recalled a great deal of trouble & vexation felt whilst there: yet it was such a sweet, romantic place, and I could then ramble about, and climb over the beautiful Mountains near the hut.

¹³² Mary Morton (1806-1895), née Chapman, wife of solicitor and barrister, Joseph Allport (1800-1877), arrived in VDL in 1831, noted artist of miniatures and portraits. Mother of Morton (1831-1878), Mary Louise (1832-1871), Curzon (1837), Francis Evitt (b. 1844), Gordon (1845-1850). Joseph Allport's partner was John Roberts, husband of Mary Anne Roberts. In 1848 the Allports lived at Aldridge Lodge in Davey St.

I sometimes think of the day on which that odious woman Maria gave me the hint as to what — was doing, his liking for the black girl; and her coming and asking me to go to the Dairy from whence I saw what she had told me was Truth! What young woman, I was only 21, would like to be placed in my situation? at the time too just recovering from what has never since entirely left me —

People may say what they please about a Woman never leaving her husband's bed, (as M^{rs} Cox did of me,) but I hold totally different ideas on the affair. I've never but the once named it to him; I've never upbraided him with anything I've felt, excepting his temper, yet I'm called "unforgiving", "Ice-like", in fact everything that is what I am not!¹³³

In the midst of my writing this morning, in walked D^r MacWharrie, and of course his eye immediately caught this unfortunate book! He looked, and was so good-tempered, that I had scarcely the heart to say "No" to his wish to look at some few passages in it; and what he did, or did not see, is to me a secret. ...

D^r Hadley passed with M^{rs} Dawson & Miss Scott; the former riding Miss Buckland's horse. I must coax the Doctor to let me ride, for I feel as tho' I really wanted exercise. [...]

November 17th Friday. Feeling much better this morning I wrote a note to D^r MacWharrie, asking him to accompany me for a ride, if he thought it would not hurt my knee; but when he came, he appeared quite vexed & astonished at my asking such a thing! Whether he does not like to go with me, or what other reason he may have I cannot imagine = but I only regret having annoyed him in any way, and shall not go at all.

¹³³ This passage refers to AB's discovery of Baxter's sexual activity with an Aboriginal woman in the dairy at Yesabba in 1839. AB had never before referred to the incident but did so more directly in her entry of 30 May 1849 in the days before her final departure from Yambuk. At the time she witnessed Baxter's infidelity AB was likely recovering from the premature stillbirth in January 1839 of a child conceived in mid-July 1838. Mrs Cox is the wife of John Cox, eldest son of James Cox (q.v.). AB reports that she "was given to understand that Mrs C—x pities my husband very much on account of our having separate beds — What would she have done in my case I wonder? Had her husband visited houses of Ill Fame — associated with blacks and Whites of the commonest description — to her injury — Making her in the state that I am in ... I am harsh no doubt when I say the sensual enjoyment would have overcome her scruples — and she would have continued to sleep by the side of a man she could not esteem! (25 Apr. 1845).

It is awkward being unable to explain minutely why I must, if possible, go over to Port Fairy, as it would tell more than most persons could imagine Man capable of; of this I'm certain, if I do not go, I shall be in less than twelve months a beggar, & worse. Why, is inexplicable! ...

Poor Bessie has been dead two months today it appears much longer to me, I suppose from being so unwell all the time. I miss her a great deal more than those who appeared fond of her; this however, is my nature. I never feel very keenly at first, but do so after a time.

M^{rs} Booth said to me today "They say you are nervous! really I cannot believe it; and cannot pity you on this score"! Strange people think because I'm not frightened, that I can have no nerves at all!

November 21st Tuesday – On Saturday I was gratified with a ride, at last! and my kind friend D^r MacWharrie accompanied Louis & myself; it must have been very slow, in more ways than one, as I could not go out of a walk. ...

This morning William started for Port Arthur, and immediately after, I went down into the Town to see Williams¹³⁴ about a Piano for Saturday: it was I fear, to no purpose however.

D^r MacWharrie came, and vexed me very considerably about this book; he remained to luncheon, and was horrified at the immense quantity of Crayfish¹³⁵ which I eat: We had just finished luncheon, when D^r Hadley & M^r Dry came = the former to ask me to ride to the Government Gardens & hear the Band. I could not go as the Misses Burnett were to pass the afternoon with me, and besides which M^r Dry was going to remain too. ...

M^r Dry remained to dinner with us, and finished "Thalaba",¹³⁶ which was very kind as he had such a head-ache; he left early. The Misses Burnett remained until 11 o'clock, and we had considerable laughter about songs, etc. M^r Davies luncheoned with us yesterday and amused me

¹³⁴ J. Williams, London trained manufacturer of pianofortes and importer of other musical instruments, had his premises in Elizabeth St.

¹³⁵ Lobster-like crustacean, once plentiful in Tasmanian waters.

¹³⁶ Robert Southey, *Thalaba the Destroyer* (London: Longman & Rees, 1801).

in the way which he got William to subscribe to the “Hutchin’s School”.¹³⁷ He says Tom Lyttleton is not at all well. [...]

November 29th Wednesday. Yesterday William dined with D^r & M^{rs} Dawson, and on his return home fell in with a man who was very imprudent, & whom he gave in charge to a constable; he had just nicely secured him, when a woman stuck her nails into his face!¹³⁸ ’Twas a polite attention that could have been dispensed with, but ladies are sometimes so personal in their little attentions! Vive la sexe!¹³⁹ –

He started by the Coach this morning for Ross,¹⁴⁰ and will be home tomorrow night. M^r Dry sat a short time with me this morning. Tonight the Ball takes place at D^r Bedford’s hospital, and it is thought that it will be well attended.¹⁴¹ ...

D^r Hadley & M^r Montgomerie¹⁴² came for me to ride, and M^{rs} Roberts joined our party. We looked at the Regiment going thro’ some drill in the paddock, and heard the Band. The ride

¹³⁷ Anglican school for boys established in 1846 and still in operation today, initially located on the corner of Macquarie and Barrack Sts in Hobart Town. Dry and Davies were founding trustees of the school.

¹³⁸ William, Henry Hadley and Frederick Montgomerie were disturbed in Davey St as they were “making water” by husband and wife, Mary Ann and George Northmore. Mrs Northmore was pursued, verbally abused and physically assaulted by William, and as she struggled to free herself from him she had scratched his face. She and her husband were arrested but the case against them was dismissed, as was the case they brought against William for “indecent conduct in public.” Meanwhile, William had brought another charge of assault against the Northmores which was upheld and Mrs Northmore was fined three pounds and costs. The *Courier*, angered that the Northmores should have “to pay for being insulted in a manner wholly unfit for publication,” published the details of the affair. The newspaper was critical of the role of the police magistrate and claimed that the “foundations upon which society are laid, have been sapped and undermined, until justice has become, a byeword, a mockery and a reproach” (20 Dec. 1848). In March 1849, an action for libel, brought by William against Charles Best (1816-1882) editor of the *Courier*, occupied the press for several days and aired all the details of this sordid affair.

¹³⁹ Live the sex [females?] (French).

¹⁴⁰ Town on the Macquarie River in an agricultural area, 73 miles (117 km) from Hobart and 47 miles (75 km) from Launceston, site of a probation station.

¹⁴¹ St Mary’s Hospital was established by Edward Samuel Pickard Bedford (q.v) in 1841 as a subscription hospital “for private patients of a better class and the industrious poor who were to subscribe weekly to obtain inpatient and outpatient treatment and to enable the rich to be charitable by paying for their treatment through subscriptions to the hospital” (Brown, *Poverty* 45). The hospital operated in rented premises but had been granted land by the government and money for building. The ball held on 29 Nov. aided the building fund of St Mary’s Hospital. A 60-bed hospital opened on the corner of Davey St and Salamanca Place in 1849 (Brown, *Poverty* 46).

¹⁴² Lieutenant Frederick Montgomery, 99th Foot. AB describes him as a “sterling, good little creature” (15 Sep. 49).

was very slow, as it hurts my leg to canter much, but my companion is so very gentlemanly & like dear D^r Mollison,¹⁴³ that the time passed pleasantly.

As we were returning I said I would like to see the Ball room, and accordingly I dismounted; after paying the rooms a visit, I came down to proceed with my ride, but no! Waverly differed in this, and would not let me near him, so after collecting a crowd of idlers, a Cab was procured, and into it I got: my companions riding by the side of the vehicle like a Guard of honor, & D^r Hadley kindly leading Waverly. ...

To my surprise, I was sitting by myself when in came D^r MacWharrie this evening; I had given John and Ann leave to go and see the good folks at the Ball, so I should have been alone. He remained until 11 o'clock, notwithstanding my urgent requests for him to go, and which he must have thought very rude; but had he known my true reason, I think he would have gone sooner: the canter was too much for me, and I felt so ill, and was so until later.

November 30th Thursday. ... I do believe I've never mentioned having had a letter from Baxter; I received it on Wednesday, and it is in his usual strain when I'm away. Oh! what I would give were we only both free! I would never marry again.

He never mentions his present to M^r Baxter, he knows he has behaved ill doing so. N'importe¹⁴⁴ he may do anything he pleases, I'm quite callous to all & every treatment. It is indeed strange how far better the wicked prosper in this world than the good! It appears singular too, that those who are beloved, should be the most punished! It is truly a mystery.

December 3rd Sunday – ... The Regatta took place on Friday, the first of the month, and the good people all appeared to be entertained with their various entertainments. ...

D^r MacWharrie came at 2 o'clock for me, and we rode out to the Regatta ground, but we could not get leave to go inside as we were on horses. We saw a little of the sport, & a "Port Phillip" bullock chasing the townsfolk to the terror of all, excepting a small woman who was

¹⁴³ Patrick Mollison, Colonial Surgeon at Port Macquarie, with whom AB had been romantically involved in the early 1840s. He died after a short illness on 10 Apr. 1842 aged thirty-five.

¹⁴⁴ Never mind (French).

excessively tipsy. The day was very tiresome in itself, sometimes so sunny, and at others so showery; 'twas all the same to me! ...

In the evening the Misses Burnett came in, and said that there was a drunken man on the door steps, and they thought he would come in as he was calling for my brother. John went to him & said William was out = and soon after we heard a noise as tho' stones were being thrown at the Bed room window; when we ran out to see what was the matter, we descried the gentleman trying to make his way across the street, and upon being asked why he pelted the window he answered "One blackguard action deserves another, tell Captⁿ Hadden". It was M^r Beauvois,¹⁴⁵ and this conduct was from being told that William had tripped him up at the Regatta, which was not the case, so he apologized most amply for his misdemeanor! ...

Miss Buckland came & chatted some time with me; we were speaking principally of her own affairs, and she was asking me if I did not think it would be wrong in her to marry M^r Fleming knowing the feelings she had for him? Would [sic] could I say? excepting, that she was the best judge of her own feelings, and she better than any other could tell if in time she could conquer these = else, what would life be worth to her?

Ah! if I could only have half expressed my bitter trials & miseries from the same, how she would shudder! It is impossible to conceive (unless felt) the dreadful disgust & repugnance I feel at the very sight of the man whom I vowed to love! What mockery to promise to love! And then the horror of being subjected to the ordeal of a married life! The very touch of a man's hand that I dislike, makes me feel such thorough sickness and disgust – instead of those intoxicating, truly heavenly thrills felt for one we love, if only in looking or thinking on them! Poor woman! I could never tell her the horrors of not loving the one we should; or au contraire.

William was out all the afternoon as usual; John drove me to, and from church this morning; as my brother was too sleepy to rise. ...

¹⁴⁵ Not identified.

The *Windermere* came in last night, and M^{rs} Belchier in her.¹⁴⁶ William has his promotion too, of which I'm very glad.¹⁴⁷ ...

December 7th Thursday. On Monday M^{rs} Roberts gave a dance, and I believe it went off very well, William went to it, but I remained at home, & had the pleasure of D^r Hadley's company. He improves vastly on acquaintance, and is very agreeable.

Tuesday morning M^r Dry came to sit with me, and told me of poor Tom Landale's death on board the *Rattler*, about six weeks after sailing; This vessel came in the night before, and that is the reason why he did not come to see me. Poor fellow! he was sadly cast down, as Tom was his favorite; and he was very fond of him.¹⁴⁸

How handsome he looked once during his visit when he became excited on a favorite topic! He went to Launceston in the evening Coach, and I shall not see him again for some time. I went to call at Boa Vista¹⁴⁹ in the afternoon, but Maria was from home; I however, had given my notes to Miss Buckland to give her, so I was all right.

D^r Hadley & Louis were with me, and we returned home after going to the "Ship Inn" to enquire for our friend M^r Dry. We found him engaged dining with M^r & M^{rs} Barrow, so we left him to his glory.

We came in during a shower, and Misses M. Scott,¹⁵⁰ Burgess & Fenton ~~accompa~~ paid me a visit; when the shower finished, we went for such a nice canter on the Lands – & had such a glorious laugh at D^r Hadley! He was saying that he liked to ruminate of a morning in bed, if he had an agreeable comp—, subject, to amuse him! He does laugh so heartily, it does one good to hear him! In the evening Miss Burnett came, and D^r Hadley dined with us; It was such a windy,

¹⁴⁶ The 601-ton *Windermere*, arrived on 5 Dec. from London, commanded by James Clunies Ross; Catherine Belcher, daughter of banker John Dunn, was obviously returning to her family following the death of her husband.

¹⁴⁷ William, a Second Captain since 26 Dec. 1844, was appointed First Captain 9 Aug. 1848.

¹⁴⁸ Tom (b. 1830) was Dry's nephew and the eldest son of Harriet and Thomas Landale (see entry 14 Mar. 1837).

¹⁴⁹ The New Town residence of Bishop Frances Nixon 1845-1850.

¹⁵⁰ Mary (b. 1826), second daughter of Colonial Surgeon James Scott R.N. (1791-1837) and his wife Lucy Margharetta, née Davey (1797-1847), sister to Lachlina Elizabeth Scott (b. 1824).

wet night, that I made Miss Burnett remain, and gave her my bed; I took William's and he came down stairs. ...

William had a letter from Mina, and I am doomed to be disappointed, for Harriet has forgotten to send me my box. I'm quite a Philosopher, & put up with all these little annoyances famously. ...

December 8th Friday Baxter's 35th birthday ... Last Saturday M^r Macgregor¹⁵¹ came to see me and told me some little news from our Port; he started in such a hurry that he did not see Baxter. He tells me M^r J. Cox¹⁵² is very ill, and it is doubtful whether he will recover the use of his leg; how very sad for him, poor soul! and especially as he cannot be nursed by the woman he loves = altho' perhaps it is better that he now find out his wife's fondness of him, notwithstanding his neglect of her. It is indeed a bitter thing to be tied to one we cannot esteem. ...

And actually I am at the close of my book nearly: I think it almost the most interesting of any – perhaps from its being so private.

By the bye I had a note today from Maria in which she very quietly [gave] a hint about the height of the shoulders of my dresses. I lent her one to go to M^{rs} Hampden's¹⁵³ in, and she tells me it would have fitted her well, only it was "rather lower on the shoulders than she generally wore them". She is a dear little creature and I do'nt mind her giving me a lecture.

When I called the other day at Boa Vista the Bishop told Maria he would so much like to know me, I had such a happy face! and said he supposed the reason I did not go in was that M^{rs} Nixon¹⁵⁴ had never called on me. C'est vrai.¹⁵⁵

Mess^{rs} Maine, Watts & Faithfull called today; Captain Denison has never yet had the politeness to do so.

¹⁵¹ Samuel Macgregor (1824-1908) held the lease of Eumeralla East (north of Yambuk), 1846-1849.

¹⁵² John Cox, son of James Cox (q.v.), operated 30,000-acre (12140.5 hec.) Weerangourt in the Port Fairy region.

¹⁵³ Possibly Mary, née Essex, wife of John Stephen Hampton (c. 1810-1869), arrived VDL Oct. 1846. Hampton, a surgeon, was Comptroller-General of Convicts 1846-1855.

¹⁵⁴ Anna Maria, née Woodcock (d.1868), second wife of Bishop Frances Nixon. The couple married in 1836 and had eight children.

¹⁵⁵ It is true (French).

Now then to close this volume, in itself quite a Romance. I frequently wonder who will read these when I'm dead; and often think of bequeathing them to some person, as a momento of as queer a compound of Reason & Madness, as ever existed! ...¹⁵⁶

*10th December 1848.*¹⁵⁷ Sunday. Another & another! It sometimes astonishes even me, to think how I have been so persevering in keeping a journal; and the only reason I can give for it is, that it is my veriest amusement! I can grumble in my book, when I cannot do so to anybody = and what would a woman's life be without a whim or a grumble? –

But how Dame “Fortune” favors me just now! only to imagine there happening to be a Pic-Nic at the moment I wished to commence a new journal! Such a piece of good luck does not occur every day; (neither do Pic-Nics!) and then ‘tis the “first of the Season”! Alas! for erring Man! We all believed the weather to be too unsettled for such an al fresco affair, but tried to persuade ourselves that we thought it would be fine. –

Well then, commençons.¹⁵⁸ On Friday M^{rs} Burgess agreed to have the party on the morrow – time, 11 o'clock; place – Brown's River; Weapons! – (Ladies 'tongues.) not named. Seconds were not mentioned, as some of us had not got rid of our First, and so the Principal remained to be – – –

Eh bien!¹⁵⁹ after arranging which of us should take pies, tarts, sausage rolls, etc – we had the pleasure of adding our mite. D^r Hadley came down at 10 o'clock to know when we were going, how, or whether we really were intending it at all? William was in bed, lazy – so I asked his friend to walk up, which he did, and after he came down stairs, I made up my mind I had far rather go for a quiet ride, than to the Pic-Nic. However, the Fates decreed differently, and so we drove to the appointed place, accompanied by D^r Hadley & M^r Smith¹⁶⁰ – (the latter rejoices in the Nickname of “Old Joe”!) Our's was a pleasant little party, and I drove some part of the way

¹⁵⁶ Final entry Notebook 10 (MS Q181 Item 10).

¹⁵⁷ First entry Notebook 11 (MS Q181 Item 11) inscribed on recto of flyleaf: “Hobart Town –/ 1848/ Vol: 15th. ”

¹⁵⁸ Let's get started (French).

¹⁵⁹ Oh well! (French).

¹⁶⁰ Possibly Lieutenant Augustus Frederick Smith (b. 1828), 99th Regiment.

which was quite a treat to me. On the road we passed M^r & M^{rs} Burgess, and M^r Drake;¹⁶¹ the latter was waiting to escort the young ladies on horseback, consisting of Miss Burgess, Misses M. Scott & Misses Power¹⁶² & Fenton: The Cab was on before, containing Mistresses Bedford & Drake, & Misses Scott and Allport.¹⁶³

We had no rain worth naming on our way down; and drove to M^r Freeman's,¹⁶⁴ where I alighted to see M^{rs} Freeman who had presented her caro sposo with a little boy, some five weeks ago. She looks delicate, and the "sweet pledge" very weakly. Poor little soul! how I wish she were better off = it is such a pity to see so pretty a creature thrown away on the wilds of Tasmania— and with so strange a man to share her fate!¹⁶⁵ Our two compagnons de voyage,¹⁶⁶ walked on to [the] scene of action, and we drove there; we found M^r Burgess in a most un-Pic-nic-like humour imaginable, and his face truly Bardolph-ian.¹⁶⁷ These are the men for police Magistrates, they carry weight in themselves, and are none of your light, easy folks who care for others opinions more than their own! And after this small détour, I'll resume my sketch.

We walked over some rocks, and came to a very snug spot where there was a natural alcove, in which I seated myself, having for [a] pillow the air cushion, and a large boat cloak under me. Then the good people commenced so busily putting out the various eatables; and a table cloth was spread on the flat rocks below where I was sitting. All was so nicely arranged, cucumbers cut, potatoes boiled, curry warmed = when a small boat hove in sight, and the "Dido"

¹⁶¹ William Henry Drake (1812-1882) was Assistant Commissary General in Hobart June 1848-January 1850. He arrived VDL 21 June, with his wife, family and two servants from Swan River.

¹⁶² Louisa Charlotte, daughter of Robert Power, Surveyor-General of VDL (1841-1851), arrived in VDL with her parents, one of her three sisters and two brothers.

¹⁶³ Mary Louise Allport (1832-1871), known as Minnie, only daughter of Joseph Allport and his wife Mary Morton, née Chapman.

¹⁶⁴ Edward John Freeman (1808-1886), Anglican clergyman, and his wife Ann (née Bush) (1819-1865) arrived VDL Feb. 1837. Freeman was minister at Evandale 1837-1841 and at Brown's River (now Kingston) circa 1842-1870. AB had met the Freeman's at Longford in April 1837, not long after they arrived. Meeting them a year later she had made a similar observation: "M^{rs} Freeman was there – so much altered! I could not think any person would change so very much in so short a time" (16 Mar. 1838).

¹⁶⁵ The name Tasmania was not officially adopted until 1 January 1856 but its use had become increasingly widespread for informal, quasi-official and official nomenclature in the preceding decade, since its first appearance in the 1820s (Newman 36-37). Van Diemen's Land had become synonymous with convictism and concerned local residents became increasingly anxious and determined to break this association. This is the first time it has been used by AB

¹⁶⁶ Travelling companions (French).

¹⁶⁷ Bardolph is a comic character in the Shakespearean plays *Henry IV Part I*, and *Henry IV Part II* and *Henry V*; he is distinguished by his ugly appearance – most notably a red nose.

came sailing along in the face of a squall! But 'twas Woman's, not Heaven's, breath that caused it!¹⁶⁸ 'twas Miss Burgess cooeing¹⁶⁹ in sweet accents to the obdurate youth on board the little craft! And now to describe the fair girl who thus lost her time & voice! She is rather pétite in figure, but not a "little" plain; she was dressed, disguised I should say in the commencement of a riding Habit; I say this, because she herself allowed she had left the skirt behind! – The dress was very narrow, and she had on a horse-hair petticoat, which naturally seemed anxious to burst the bounds and be free; the dress was too short for the under garment, and when she walked, or turned quickly round, 'twas the most comical looking affair in the world, and impossible to prevent, causing a laugh. Her hat was large, & well fixed at the back of her head, which gave her a *déagée*¹⁷⁰ look! But as I was saying, she wafted a cooe to M^r Austin¹⁷¹ (who never heard it) and "held aloft a snow white" handkerchief which was so small that even those happy Beings near to her could scarcely see, much more the person in the boat. – Of a sudden it was suggested that something larger would be better to hold out for a signal, when oh! horrors, one of the "Parent-Pic-Nic's" table cloths was taken, perfectly regardless of the naked appearance it would leave the table in!

Whilst this scene was enacting the rest of the party joined us = Miss M. Scott looking so coquettish & pretty; Miss Power so warm as to be obliged to apply (not her eau-de-Cologne) her handkerchief to her face! Then came a young Officer of the 99th (whose name I cannot spell, and with whom Miss Fenton is smitten,) stepping along so merrily over the rocks, and never caring an iota for his fair friend – who came toiling on with her long-skirted bright, green habit! He might well sing "The girl I've left behind me",¹⁷² for he never looked again at her, & to me seemed like "the soldier tired of maiden's charms".

¹⁶⁸ Alludes to William Cowper's eighteenth-century hymn "Human Frailty": "But oars alone can ne'er prevail/ To reach the distant coast;/ The breath of heaven must swell the sail,/ Or all the toil is lost."

¹⁶⁹ A signal used by Australian Aborigines to draw attention to the caller and imitated by settlers.

¹⁷⁰ Relaxed/ unconstrained (French).

¹⁷¹ Ensign of the 99th Foot arrived VDL July 1848.

¹⁷² Frequently parodied army song of obscure origin possibly arising from the mid-eighteenth to early nineteenth century.

We were going to luncheon, when up rode Mess^{rs} Johnson, Power; and soon after Major Smyly and Captⁿ Pratt.¹⁷³ Before these last arrivals however such a heavy shower of rain came down, and all were glad to come into my parlour, excepting by the way, D^r Hadley & M^r Burgess. Such a clearance of pies took place tho', and I think a few buns were the only victims to rain.

After the shower had passed, or fallen rather, some of our inmates moved out, and disposed themselves in picturesque groups = par exemple: Misses Power & Fenton sat on a rock at some distance with their plates on their laps, and doing the amiable to M^r Johnson who was rushing about to accomplish their wishes.

M^r Burgess had found some curry to his liking, and was taking advantage of it = he was almost happy, when my cruel friend D^r Hadley caught up the pepper box,¹⁷⁴ and instead of dusting the cucumber with it, allowed it to escape in the old gentleman's direction, thereby causing an exceedingly unpleasant twitching of the nose; he did not see what it was for some time.

A second shower came, and I liked it better than the first; one naturally feels more amiable after having had dinner, which I had indulged in. There was a tolerable collation, and all seemed very correctly merry. Soon after the meal was over, all went away with the exception of D^r Hadley & myself, who sat amused spectators of the "packing up", which was going on at a short distance from us. M^{rs} Drake lost one fork; all the spoons were there!

All pleasant things must end, so after giving, & receiving a "kiss", I mounted Napoleon, and my kind friend led him over the rocks; at the same time I expect wishing me & my horse far off! ...

We reached home in good time, and thanks to Miss Buckland's red jacket, I felt none the worse for the cold wind; by the bye, this article of dress is most comfortable and almost becoming; it is quite Bandit-looking in its way.

¹⁷³ Johnson, Smyly [Smylie] and Edward Pratt were all officers of the 99th Foot. Pratt was the regiment's paymaster. Mr Power was probably Thomas Henry Power, second son of Robert Power.

¹⁷⁴ Pepper grinder.

William walked up to M^{rs} Roberts' for Louis: & D^r Hadley & M^r Smith remained with the promise of having something to eat = this was not to be; John cannot endure giving anything unless in proper style, and as he was rather a long time in effecting this, M^r Smith went off to get ready for the finale to the "day" = which was a Polka at M^{rs} Drake's. D^r Hadley went away with the little man, and returned soon after = when he kindly passed the evening with me.

William went up to M^{rs} Drake's, and had a very pleasant hour or two; it being Saturday night, "Sweethearts & Wives" retired earlier than they would have done = and those happy people who had either the one or the other, were left to ruminate on them!! –

And so the day passed, and to me pleasantly; it is some time since I've felt so amiably disposed to Mankind in general, as this day. 'Twould be a good thing if it had the effect always of improving one's mood = but unfortunately with the sweets, come the bitters!

December 10th Sunday. This morning I certainly felt more disposed to remain in bed than to get up, but I said to myself "if you are well enough to go to Pic-Nics, you are able to go to Church" = so up I got, and John drove me to there. Instead of the Bishop preaching, M^r Tancred¹⁷⁵ did, and I do'nt like his sermon, at all. D^r Hadley came like a good Samaritan, and gave me his arm down the aisle; John was waiting for me.

As we were going up Davey Street, we ~~met~~ passed the soldiers going "double quick", as it was raining heavily; The men seemed to like it, but the Officers did not face the hill so well. "There was Old Joe kicking up before & behind", and looking so very queer; We nearly drove over Col: Jackson,¹⁷⁶ & he rushed against a dog, which dog nearly upset M^r Montgomerie. M^r Smith had to fall back; he could not manage the Rise; He has a peculiar method of running = the one part of his body appears to be cantering, whilst the other is trotting.

December 11th Monday. D^r Hadley dined with us yesterday and Miss Buckland came in just as we were finishing that meal; they both left at 10 o'clock. William walked out with them, & did not

¹⁷⁵ William Tancred, youngest son of Sir Thomas Tancred, Anglican clergyman, married Henrietta Schaw (b. 1833) at Richmond on 28 Oct. 1852.

¹⁷⁶ An officer of the 99th Foot, arrived VDL 14 Aug. 1848.

return until 4 o'clock this morning; he had been sitting with Mess^{rs} Maine & Faithfull.¹⁷⁷ It is such a pity the dear fellow remains up so late at night; it will ruin his eyes. ...

December 15th Friday. This evening there was to be an entertainment at the "Circus", so William determined on taking Louis, M^{rs} Roberts, and Miss Maclean;¹⁷⁸ Miss Burnett & D^r Hadley dined with us, and were to have accompanied the good folks to the Circus = but they altered their minds, and remained with me instead, of which I was very glad. Miss Buckland too came in and sang so nicely nearly all the evening

As John & Anne had gone to the entertainment, I had only the old carpenter to do waiter; and Miss Burnett and I officiated, assisted by D^r Hadley. We passed the evening very tolerably, and my friends did not leave until 11 o'clock. I had a letter this morning from Maria, in which she tells me that Tom will be over by the Friday Coach – that is today.

December 16th Saturday. At 10 o'clock, Captain Goldsmith and D^r Hadley came, and soon after we all started for New Norfolk; I drove after the first 9 miles; and we reached our destination about 1 o'clock. We drove to the Archdeacon's as arranged before, and at 3 had dinner. M^{rs} Marriott looks very pretty, and as well as ever I saw her looking, altho' in such deep distress about her servants, whom she cannot manage to keep for any time. She amused me very much in saying that she could not attend to her birds, and asking the Archdeacon to get one of the men to feed them!

In the afternoon all went out but me, and I made myself useful in copying a song for M^{rs} Marriott whilst they were out; M^{rs} Sharland, M^{rs} Schaw, Miss L. Schaw and the 4 Misses Sharland came up to see me. The former being en famille¹⁷⁹ looks so ill and weak! Poor little creature, it is really too bad for her to be always either nursing, or having children.¹⁸⁰ How fond men should be of their wives, when they see them suffer so much for their sakes! I asked her if she felt nervous at the approach of another accouchement? She said "Oh! no; I would far sooner

¹⁷⁷ Not identified.

¹⁷⁸ Sarah Anne, eldest daughter of Deputy Commissary General George MacLean and his wife.

¹⁷⁹ Pregnant/ In the family way (French).

¹⁸⁰ Frances Sharland was pregnant with her ninth child, a daughter Catherine was born 31 Mar. 1849.

have children, than suffer as you do = with a child, it is over, & there is an end of it; but you are always ill"! She is a good mother & wife – ...

December 17th Sunday. We had breakfast at ½ past 9 o'clock, and after that William took his cigar with him, & D^r Hadley & I were amused watching the good folks going to church, until the carriage came round for us to go too. It is a very neat little building,¹⁸¹ and the pew we sat in was carpeted & had a fire place in it; M^{rs} Marriott played the Seraphine,¹⁸² but it is not good toned at all. The Archdeacon performed the service, and altho' I do'nt admire his voice, his sermon was very fair. Major Schaw, who sat in the same pew we did, composed himself and took a Nap; William put Louis' dress to rights continually thereby keeping the child's attention fixed on "things below" instead of "above" = and D^r Hadley nodded his head in good style! ...

December 18th Monday. We breakfasted, and called at the Archdeacon's by 9 o'clock; Captⁿ Goldsmith, Louis & William sat in the front, and M^{rs} Marriott & I behind. Oh! I was so shaken! it is pitiable how I feel for a time, any over-fatigue, and positively I could scarcely move during the whole evening – not to mention other disagreeables. ...

December 19th Tuesday... In the evening all went to the Circus, with the exception of Ann & myself; and really it would have been better had I been alone, for she took a "taste too much of the craytur", and after bringing in the tea tray, she went up stairs and to my horror fell headlong against the passage door! I thought at first that she was in a fit, and intended sending for D^r MacWharrie, but when she could speak, she said "Not to night"! this awakened my ideas, and I lifted her up and made her go up stairs = after a time I thought it would be advisable to see if her light were out, when upon going up stairs I found her fast asleep on the stairs. I helped her up to bed then, and placed her on it = when I once more sat myself down to write. I finished a song, and a letter to D^r McTernan, which D^r Morris¹⁸³ has promised to take for me to him.

¹⁸¹ St Matthews Anglican Church, Bathurst St, New Norfolk, original building dates from 1828, extended in 1833 and later in the nineteenth century.

¹⁸² A kind of reed organ, smaller and cheaper than a pipe organ, and widely used in smaller churches and private homes. They were distinguished by a limited range of tone.

¹⁸³ Dr James McTernan was Surgeon-Superintendent on the *Augusta Jessie*, Dr Morris R.N. departed VDL on the *Calcutta* 28 Dec. 1848.

Louis did not return until after 12 considerably, & then I undressed him, and went to bed myself. William came in about 3 o'clock, and Tom made his entrée this morning after the servants were up!

December 20th Wednesday. Soon after breakfast, Tom drove me out to see M^{rs} E. Willis = we remained there for ½ an hour or so,¹⁸⁴ and then did a little shopping on our way home. We found D^r Hadley here, and he sat with me until nearly 3 o'clock, when he had to go to the Domain with the regiment.

Miss Buckland came in to see me, just after my old acquaintance D^r MacWharrie left the room; he sat here an hour I suppose, & says he does not like to see me so flushed. Miss Burnett came soon after, & remained with me whilst at dinner; Tom was here too, during this meal: He & William dine at the Mess; so I shall not sit up for them tonight.

December 21st Thursday. It was rather fortunate that I made the foregoing resolution, for my two worthy friends did not make their return good until early this morning. I cannot imagine how they can sit up night after night as they do! Oh! I should be thoroughly worn out with the existence. ...

In the afternoon I rode "Harold" with D^r Hadley & Louis, M^{rs} Roberts & Tom started with us, but somehow lost us in a severe cloud of dust – Hélas!¹⁸⁵ 'tis not the first person lost in such a way – in fact we often hear of our friends being under one, (a cloud!) and this appears to me worse, even. I did like my ride; we went to the Ferry, and there met M^{rs} J. Dunn¹⁸⁶ and M^{rs} Belchier. The latter is grown coarse & "colonial" looking = but not so in manner certainly.

Oh! dear me, why can we not choose our own society in this World? how hard because an "unfortunate" does make one rash Vow, that it must always be a check to one's happiness! Par exemple;¹⁸⁷ We find out that we cannot do what we foolishly, nay wickedly promise, that we hate where we should love! = Well! then it is immediately considered wrong to take an interest in any one else – and so we go on – from one misery to another. Happy they who can allow their feelings

¹⁸⁴ Catherine (b. 1822), wife of Edward Willis (see entry 6 Apr. 1838), and daughter of Charles Swanston, was presumably visiting her parents at their home New Town Park.

¹⁸⁵ Alas (French).

¹⁸⁶ Catherine (1796-1851), née Colville, wife of John Dunn (1790-1861), banker of Hobart Town.

¹⁸⁷ For example (French).

to be schooled by their situation! I'm convinced they are the happiest. Now, what could M^{rs} Belchier see to love in her poor husband? He told such wo[e]ful fibs that this alone would have disgusted me with him! It is good we should differ in opinion, else the World would soon come to a stand-still; indeed for me, cease to be! — —

We got home a little before 6 o'clock, and soon after, M^{rs} E. H Willis came; she looks much better by candle light, and is well made: (up!) Dresses very fascinatingly – for instance, had on a handsome dress, made for a high stomacher = but she put a low one instead – so that when you stood opposite to her, it looked so modest; and when on either side, or the other, 'twas like Norah Creina's = "leaving every beauty free", etc.¹⁸⁸ I remember M^r Macknight¹⁸⁹ telling me that this lady had such a pretty neck. It is quite wonderful how much she improves by candle light, in appearance! She is at present suffering from two complaints – the one rather a serious one, liver complaint; the other much more common, but decidedly more distressing where love is not. This opinion however, is decidedly improper in a young Colony! – so "advance Tasmania"! ...

December 24th Sunday – Tom drove me to church & came home again instead of going inside the building; he was good enough to return for me, and we brought off D^r Hadley with us.

Last evening we dined at M^{rs} Maclean's where we found Major & M^{rs} Ainsworth, M^r & M^{rs} Drake, Major Jones,¹⁹⁰ Major Last,¹⁹¹ D^r Hadley & M^r Montgomerie. I was fortunate enough to be seated next to my great favorite D^r Hadley; I say fortunate, because he is always in a chatty, agreeable humour! and I do like him so much. I do'nt suppose there is any very considerably harm in saying this = if there be, I can only say I'm sorry for it, but shall not alter in my opinion.

...

During the evening, dancing was carried on with considerable effect, especially by Major Ainsworth, who danced as tho' it were with heart and soul. Now if the truth were known, the time

¹⁸⁸ Nora Creina was the subject of Thomas Moore's Irish melody "Lesbia Hath a Beaming Eye": "O' my Norah's gown for me,/ That floats as wild as mountain breezes,/ Leaving every beauty free/ To sink or swell as Heaven pleases./Yes, my Norah Creina dear!" [?poem also known as "Norah Creina"]

¹⁸⁹ Not identified.

¹⁹⁰ One of the contingent of the 99th Foot that arrived VDL July-Aug. 1848.

¹⁹¹ Edward Last arrived VDL 1848 with the 99th Foot after service in NZ. In 1849 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace and a visiting magistrate (Richardson, "An Annotated" 2:53).

of life at which these good people have come to, is the happiest; they have no anticipations to blight, no petty jealousies to annoy; all that they do, is for themselves, all that they hope is so too!

Oh! Youth is indeed the Spring of life! but how often do the flowers of that beautiful season perish from want of something to retain life; a blight will fall on both – and few of us can think of our early days without feeling sadly! I, for one, would not recall the Spring of my life; and often think of it please God to preserve ~~my~~ me to Autumn. I may by that time have lost the keen as well as highly pleasurable feelings I now possess, and be at least more tranquil, if not exactly happy! This last – I never shall be on Earth = and I fear me, I have made my Heaven too much in imagination ever to find it realized Above, or below. – What sentiments for a Journal. –

I lent one of my small books to a friend, and he has derived much amusement from its reading; I would like to let him have the last one, but it would reveal too much, things that may not be known until I cease to be – excepting in Memory. ...

December [30th] Saturday. Am I not almost ashamed to look at my neglected book, really it is a week since I wrote in it? All I can say is that the days, or the better part of them, pass so pleasantly, it quite makes me lazy – and then there is some ingratitude too in the affair – for I now feel myself independant [sic] of my journal for happy moments – that used to be passed in communing with it.

But for the events of the week. On Tuesday we dined at M^r E. Bedford's, in company with D^r Hadley & Mess^{rs} Lloyd¹⁹² & Simpkinson;¹⁹³ Misses Scott & Allport came in during the evening, and were a considerable acquisition as they both sing nicely. ...

On Thursday we rode up to call on M^{rs} Dawson; I say "we", very naturally, but I mean D^r Hadley & I. He is so kind in taking me out to ride nearly every day, that he is included in the pronoun as much as dear William would be. We found the lady at home, and looking very well = she would have gone to hear the Band play in the Government Garden, only that she was awaiting some friends from the country. [...]

¹⁹² Possibly Lieutenant Lloyd of the 96th Foot.

¹⁹³ Francis Guillemard Simpkinson de Wesselow (1819-1906), nephew of Lady Jane Franklin, Royal Navy Officer and artist, arrived VDL September 1844 to assist Joseph Kay at the Observatory, departed VDL on the *Calcutta* January 1849.

December [31st] M— might have envied me tonight, & in the one respect I deserved it, but she would not wish to have felt in my spirits I think. I have cried until my eyes ache – and the Old Year was finished as it began – in tears: Oh! this time twelve months! what a fearful night I passed! What sad, sad abuse I received – and nearly my Death in consequence!¹⁹⁴ all this came to my mind as D^r Hadley sat beside me, with his kind eyes fixed on me, watching every movement; and is it to wondered at that I should compare this with the brutalities of my husband? Let those cold-hearted mortals blame me who can love after marriage, but who could never truly love before – these pure beings who require the assistance of Passion to give them any warmth at all – Yes! they may say it is sinful to note what I have; but let them be placed in the same desperate situations I have been, and then see which will best stand the test?

Alas! Another year is passed – and how? ‘Tis vain to quote what I feel = Oh! how earnestly do I pray to my Creator to forgive me my numberless sins & follies = and he does do so to them who wish it! What would I give to be away from the World, and pass the rest of my life quietly & well? This is not destined to be my lot – no Misery is ever in store for me. ...

And now to finish the Year! There is dear Ada giving her tiny squeak to let me know she is with me yet another year – and the dear pet I trust may be so as long as I am. May Heaven bless all those whom I love, and grant them every blessing = and if I may dare to Hope for Happiness, is it too much for me to do? [...]

January 5th 1849 Friday. Miss Schaw has passed until today with me, and this afternoon left for New Norfolk.

We have been twice for a ride, when Maria has ridden “Waverly” and I Harold. One day D^r Hadley drove us all to the Band – when we got out & listened to it with delight; after which we went for a short drive.

¹⁹⁴ AB’s journal entry for “Jan^y 1848” reports that she “was taken dangerously ill” on New Years Day after an “awful time ...too wretched to dwell on” had occurred on New Years Eve. Although not specific, she is presumably intimating that she was physically abused by Baxter.

Wednesday Miss Burnett took Maria with her for a little time whilst I fulfilled an engagement in town. She has I may almost say, lived here this week; for on Monday she slept here & remained until Wednesday = and Thursday she passed all the morning with us. ...

The first night she slept here, after we had gone to our rooms, I went into their's = (William's) and very slyly secured his hunting coat, waistcoat, cravat & cap! After a short time I walked into their room fully equipped, and the scene will never leave my mind. Miss Burnett was in the act of going to bed, & immediately jumped out in her Night Dress; after looking at me a minute, she said "Oh! get away! who are you, oh!" I laughed; and she then was quite in raptures as to my looks, etc: She said I was so like William, or M^r Clarke = that I only looked 17! and finished by asking me to dance the Polka! This last manoeuvre was to see how my legs stood the pantaloons! So I made them instantly into a dansante¹⁹⁵ attitude, & said "Yes! with you"! Poor woman! off she went into a corner & squeezed herself into as small a parcel as possible = & very quaintly remarked "Oh! I think you're a man, and I would not so much mind if I had on my dressing gown"! – They made me stay for some time with them, and then I went to bed.

On Tuesday & Wednesday we had ices at Webb's;¹⁹⁶ on the latter day Annie went to stay at M^{rs} Roberts'. M^{rs} Roberts came down on Wednesday, and has had a fall from Norah, but is not hurt. ...

Yesterday M^r & M^{rs} Sharland, and 4 children came into town; I was returning from my visit, and D^r Hadley was driving me to find Miss Burnett & Miss Schaw, when we saw the Archdeacon and M^{rs} Marriott, and 2 more Misses Schaw. ...

The Archdeacon and M^{rs} Marriott went to Government House at 6 o'clock to be present at the Juvenile party;¹⁹⁷ we sat down to dinner instead – 4 ladies, & no gentleman, and immediately after the 3 "young people" went to dress. ...

¹⁹⁵ Dancing (French).

¹⁹⁶ The *Courier* for 30 Dec. 1848 included a notice from John Webb, "Confectioner, Murray St," advertising the recent importation of "one of MASTER'S PATENT FREEZING MACHINES for the rapid and economical production of CREAM and WATER ICES."

¹⁹⁷ Juvenile Ball held at Government House. Lady Caroline Denison began this tradition. This ball was the first. Fifty children under ten were invited for six o'clock. They played games and were given refreshments.

D^r & M^{rs} Dawson came for me at ¼ to 10 o'clock, when we drove to Government House. There was a pretty assemblée of children – and Sarah Butler, Mary Sharland and Georgy Willis¹⁹⁸ were the decided Belles; Young McDonald¹⁹⁹ was the handsomest boy there, and he certainly is a fine lad! His eyes are so beautifully wild in their expression.

Immediately after getting into the Dancing room, D^r Hadley joined us = then came the “finding out” Sir William and Lady Denison, which we succeeded in doing, & wended our way to the “lookers-on” side of the room. Here I met M^r E. Willis, looking very well, only stouter than when I formerly knew him, he seduced me into dancing the Polka, and then a Gallopade.²⁰⁰ It was very ludicrous to hear him trying to pay me a compliment or two by saying that he could fancy he was dancing with me 9 years ago, and that I looked quite as young & pretty. ...

The evening went off very well, and D^r Dawson came about a ¼ to 2 o'clock for me to go home = his lady fair was quite vexed at having to leave so soon, being engaged for a Polka, and said she would give him a piece of her mind; but she appears to bark worse than bite!

January 10th Wednesday. I have been out riding nearly every day since I wrote in this; Miss Burnett has passed most of her time with me, and slept here three nights. She is such a strange being, will not sleep down stairs alone, and William's room she is afraid of! Besides which until I had a note from him yesterday, I thought it probable he might return home per Mail, & find the fair Carlotta in his bed = which would have caused both a fright – in different ways!! –

By the bye, the other day he was saying something to me which proved that altho' the kindest, the best hearted creature, he is still Man, and this in his most — (oh! I cannot say the word I mean,) kind. Par example:²⁰¹ Miss S—e²⁰² has told some unkind thing of him to M^r R—

A native cherry was used as a Christmas tree, “the first ever seen in the colony.” At eight o'clock the young people were joined by their elder siblings and parents (Alexander 198).

¹⁹⁸ Sarah (b. 1837), daughter of Edward Paine Butler, Mary (b. 1839) daughter of William Stanley Sharland, Geogeanna Laura (b. 1841) daughter of Edward Willis.

¹⁹⁹ Not identified.

²⁰⁰ Galop or Galopade: a simple, popular and fashionable dance for partners introduced to England about 1830 possibly from Russia in which both of dancers “face the line of the dance and advance rapidly down the room with a series of chassés varied by the occasional turning movement” (Richardson, *Social* 69-70).

²⁰¹ For example (French).

²⁰² Miss Spode.

ts,²⁰³ and so he said to me “I’m quite undecided as to whether I shall pay her out in abuse, or in another way”! It vexed me to hear him say this, & so I told him = but he said she was a girl that could take a good deal in this way, and he would not be the first who had tried it! Oh! man, why are the feelings intended for our good, so utterly thrown away, or worse – so completely rendered sensual. ...

January 11th Thursday. We went for a delightful ride yesterday, our party consisting of Mistresses Drake, E. Bedford, Miss Scott D^r Hadley, Louis & myself. We first went round the Domain, and then down to the Beach, where we took such a nice canter. I put on my straw hat for the first time, and found it such a comfort! The face is so completely shaded in it: It is certainly flying in the face of the multitude, but altho’ the Hobartonians may be warm, the Sun is warmer, so I’ll humour the latter. ...

January 13th Saturday – Yesterday I had a note from Tom,²⁰⁴ and a letter from my beloved friend, Marion. ... Poor Marion tells me something that grieves me very much; what a sad thing to think that all her illness is caused from unskillful treatment during her accouchement! It is such an absurd idea I think having Women to attend at such a time. A man is far more delicate, and is fitter to be with a person at such times. It does me good to think how happy she is tho’ with Mordaunt.²⁰⁵ She is just the woman to secure a man’s love. ...

William wishes to borrow some money of me, until we go home, and this he is most welcome to = but he again wishes to give me the interest he would M^r J. Dunn,²⁰⁶ and I say that what I am getting at home is quite sufficient: I think we shall arrange matters without fighting. ...

January 17th Wednesday. Today is the 5th anniversary of my little Annie’s birthday, and so she asked a few small friends to pass the day with her.

²⁰³ Mr John Roberts.

²⁰⁴ Thomas Browne (q.v.).

²⁰⁵ Mordaunt Maclean (c. 1823 -1870), husband of AB’s friend Marion McLeod (q.v.).

²⁰⁶ John Dunn (1790-1861), successful merchant and banker, arrived VDL 1822 with his wife Catherine, née Colville, his wealthy mother-in-law, and young son. Established the Commercial Bank in 1829 and maintained an interest in this bank until his retirement in 1857. He lived at Heathfield, Davey St. where his wife died in 1851, aged fifty five years.

Last evening the Mess^{rs} Burnett dined with us, and just as we had finished, in came D^r Hadley = from his long trip in the country! I must not forget to mention how kind he was in sending to ask me if I would ride Harold, whilst he was away; but I felt no inclination to do so.

Yesterday too, we went to the Sale of Chinese goods,²⁰⁷ and were unfortunate in our speculations, as all that we wished for there, went too high to suit our slender means. Miss Burnett went with me, & M^{rs} Marriott was there. [...]

January 25th Thursday. All has gone on much as usual, so I've not troubled my journal much this week; We have ridden nearly every day, and I've been favored with Harold. On Monday M^r & M^{rs} Drake, Mess^{rs} Tancred & Sharland and D^r Hadley dined with us. On Saturday we had a juvenile Pic-Nic out in the Domain; the small "fry" consisted of the two Misses Drake, 4 Bedfords, and our own 2. They behaved very well, and were no trouble. ... I went to church on Sunday, and was the only one of my household who did so. ...

January 28th Sunday. ... On Friday, William dined at Mess, and Miss Burnett dined with me; in the evening we drove into town with Martin a[s] Coachman, and it required all my gravity to prevent laughing at his white hat, which fitted him far too much! This was upset by Louis saying "Who stole the Donkey"?²⁰⁸ when out came a peal of laughter from all of us. On our way home, I sent Martin with a ~~letter~~ note to D^r Hadley to say how poorly John was, and he kindly came to see him, and remained with us all the evening. I drove home from the Barracks, and Miss Burnett declares her heart was beating fearfully the whole time. We played at Whist in the evening, and had considerable laughing on the subject = we should have distracted regular Whist players! ...

Yesterday I found out that the *Joseph Cripps* was to sail for Belfast,²⁰⁹ so I immediately made up a parcel of Newspapers & books for Baxter.

²⁰⁷ "Chinese ware, and ornaments, work-boxes, vases and other things in profusion" were offered for sale by Messrs Lowe and MacMichael over a period of several days, commencing on the 15 Jan. 1849 (*Courier* 10 Jan. 1849).

²⁰⁸ A street cry associated with the appearance of a man in a white hat.

²⁰⁹ The 78-ton schooner *Joseph Cripps* departed Hobart Town for Portland and Port Fairy on 27 Jan. 1849.

Thursday 1st of February – ... I do feel so poorly today, and cannot in the least account for it, but I hope it will soon pass. I am just beginning to feel leaving Hobart Town, and wish I had all the disagreeables over of packing, and saying Adieu. ...

On the 30th of January I drew £300 – on Hopkinson & Co as William wants some of it, not wishing to trouble M^r Jacquier.²¹⁰

Miss Buckland has given me a Canary Bird, and I shall leave it with D^r Hadley, until my return from Port Phillip. Dearest Marion's letter I answered yesterday. ...

D^r MacWharrie has been several times to see me, and is to pass this evening with me; as I shall be alone. Tomorrow is D^r Hadley's birthday, and I shall give him the mouchoir²¹¹ holder.

William has given me "Salathiel", of which I am so fond; how I will value it! ...

February 11th Sunday – Longford Parsonage. I left Hobart Town on Friday evening in the Mail, accompanied by D^r Hadley; I cannot say how pleased & gratified I felt by his doing so, it showed so much kindness & consideration. He returned by the yesterday morning's Coach which we met near Rhodes,²¹² and I shall not see his kind face again for some time.

Poor Rowley has met with an accident, and scalded his leg very badly, but is recovering fast under D^r Kilgour's care. The carriage met me at Perth, and how glad I was to get out of the odious Coach which had cramped my legs so terribly. M^r Davies is gone to Circular Head with the Bishop, and is expected every hour.²¹³ Tom had driven M^{rs} Nixon to M^{rs} Dumeresque's, and did not return until luncheon; he is looking very well. ...

The Parsonage looks pretty, but rather scorched with the sun; there is such a Purity, if I may so express it, in the air of this place – I mean such a halo surrounds the house, that even I feel inclined to be good, and do not think I could do anything to lose the love of these dear people. ...

February 12th Monday. Tom drove me over to Symmon's Plains, and we had luncheon with M^{rs} Youl; the Master of the house being in Launceston, we did not see him.

²¹⁰ Father-in-law of William.

²¹¹ Handkerchief (French).

²¹² Property of Thomas Walker (1791-1861) near Longford.

²¹³ Rowland Davies who was then Rural Dean of VDL, accompanied the Anglican Bishop Francis Nixon and the Inspector of Schools, Charles Bradbury, on this tour of Circular Head. The party left Launceston on board the *Swan* 2 February 1849.

The “establishment” does not look as neat as it used to do when Jane had the management of it; the children pull everything about, jump on the sofa & chairs, and are, in fact spoilt.²¹⁴ We called on our way at Woolmers, and saw M^{rs} Archer, who is not looking very well.

February 14th Wednesday. Valentine’s day. Maria & M^{rs} Lyttleton brought me into town this morning, as the Steamer leaves tomorrow at 6 o’clock; Tom came in likewise, accompanied by a M^r Bradbury²¹⁵ = the funniest looking little mortal I almost ever saw. ...

I came to the Cornwall on my arrival, and have taken possession of M^r Tarletan’s²¹⁶ rooms.

M^r Dry has been in twice to see me, and is gone now with Maria to Elfin, to see the Landales; I feel for the poor Father, for he frets so sadly about the son he has lost. ...

I found three letters here awaiting me: Two from Baxter, and one from Hobart Town = the latter afforded me much pleasure. Baxter feels it dull without me, and says he does not like being alone; he tells me everybody is badly off, especially himself. ... The Steamer has only 40 cabin passengers, so I shall, I think, take my rest on the Deck. ...

M^r Youl came in this afternoon and brought M^{rs} Griffiths & her family, and his “Grandpapa” D^r Gammock; he brought the latter in to introduce him to me, as we shall be fellow passengers to Melbourne. Mess^{rs} Youl, Dry and Tom had tea with me, and then went to the Circus, I believe. I spoke to the one, and told him what I had thought at his having said what he did to me; what I had done in consequence, and that I knew he could not feel what he had done, or he would never have said anything half so galling! Oh! his answer! it will be ever – for ever engraven on my heart = We are but bad judges of our own feelings; when we fancy we can in a few months banish a love of years! — —

February 18th Sunday. Melbourne. ... The *Shamrock*²¹⁷ got under weigh exactly at six, and off we went; Tom, standing looking dismal between Miss Lewis & M^{rs} Cox; the young lady having

²¹⁴ James Youl’s sister Jane lived at Symmon’s Plains with her brother before her marriage to James Gates in 1839. James and his wife Eliza née Cox had a large family; in January 1849 there would have been five children aged between eight and two years living in the house at Symons Plains.

²¹⁵ Charles Bradbury, Inspector of Schools.

²¹⁶ Possibly William Tarleton (1820-1895), Police Magistrate, Launceston, in the 1840s.

£10,000, makes him think her a very nice pretty girl! But I asked him if he had seen her brother David?²¹⁸

Long before we reached George Town, I had to go and lie down, and by the time the Tide-Waiter²¹⁹ came on board, I had under the delightful influence of Porter, fallen asleep. Presently, a violent knocking awoke me, and to my reply of “come in”, the Stewardess & a Constable appeared at the cabin door.

“Your name, if you please,” said the man; “Annie Maria Baxter replied I. “What was the name of the Vessel you came to the Colony in”? *Augusta-Jessie*. “A prison ship”? “Yes”. “Did you come free to the Colony?” said the wretch, in the most confidential tone. “At the King’s expense, partly” said I, unable, tho’ ill, to let a morsel of fun pass me. “What”? he said coming a little nearer = “Oh!” said I feeling really sick, “I am quite free now, and you can go too”. The Stewardess said very civilly, “It is custom, to under go this examination” – “Very well” I replied, “this will do”. Away they went – but as I come back I shall certainly speak to Captain Friend²²⁰ about it.

²¹⁷ 200-ton steamer which operated regularly between Launceston, Melbourne and Sydney. Mrs Griffiths and Dr Gamack, a military surgeon, were among the thirty-one passengers on the vessel.

²¹⁸ David Lewis (b. 1821) and his sister Isabella (b. 1831), children of prominent and respected Hobart Town merchant and auctioneer, Richard Lewis (1789-1867).

²¹⁹ Inspector of Customs.

²²⁰ Charles Friend (see entry 3 Dec. 1837).

FIFTH VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND 15 JUNE 1849 – 15 JANUARY 1851

Introduction

In June 1849 Annie returned to Van Diemen's Land after an absence of just four months. During that period she had gone back to Yambuk where she had completed negotiations with her husband, Andrew Baxter, for financial separation. She did not envisage returning to the marriage in the near future and expected to remain with William and his children in Hobart until he received a transfer. At that time she hoped to accompany the family to England. This was a continuation of her duties following Bessie's death. As the closest female relative she was expected to take an ongoing responsibility, especially for the children; either in her own home or theirs. For readers of the journal today, these developments would seem to represent an opportunity for Annie to experience a less troubled, more secure and settled future, where she was free from her unfortunate marriage and could occupy a valued social role. But Annie's record of her last weeks at Yambuk and arrival in Van Diemen's Land does not indicate that she was either optimistic about her future prospects or even convinced that she should take steps for formal separation; she rather assesses her predicament as one which presented "continual woe and bitterness" for her (17 June 1849).

A number of factors associated with the trauma of her departure from her home at Yambuk, together with the uncertainty about her reception on her arrival in Van Diemen's Land, underpin Annie's pessimistic assessment of her situation. Annie's separation from Baxter freed her from his violence and abuse, and theoretically gave her a degree of financial independence¹ but it also meant that she must leave supportive friends as well as her home and property. Although the house at Yambuk was modest and associated with the sadness of her marriage, it had been her home and provided a level of security which would be lost when she left. As such, she had an attachment to the property and continued to take a proprietary interest in its maintenance until the last. In the weeks before her departure she worked alongside Baxter and the men in the paddocks

¹ Baxter reneged on the financial settlement of £2000 that was negotiated before Annie's departure from Yambuk in June 1849. Annie was forced to take further action in Hobart Town in 1850.

mustering cattle, while in her garden she planted bulbs and collected plants. Rather incongruously, once her trunk was packed – “the Drawers to rights; the papers in order ... and everything correct” (3 June 1849) – she and Baxter spent the day “very busy putting new paper on the sitting room walls.” Annie was pleased with the result and reports that as “the paper is very light” the room “looks so much lighter and larger” (7 June 1849).

Significantly, as mistress of Yambuk Annie was respected and admired. She enjoyed working on the station and was recognised as a skilled horsewoman and competent cattlemaster. A week before her departure from Yambuk she writes of the “glory” and “great excitement” she derived from “cattle hunting” (3 June 1849). In April her expertise was acknowledged by both Baxter and the farm hand Ned: “Ned, was very active, on Jet: and said, when I offered to take the tiresome side of the cattle, ‘Ah! well then, I know Ma’am, they’re all safe’! Twice I headed them, & made them turn, and when we came in Baxter told Margaret I was worth three Men!!” (2 Apr. 1849). Annie thrived on this recognition and reports with obvious pride a “dissertation on [her] good qualities” (8 Apr. 1849) told to her by her friend Margaret McLeod in which she was compared favourably with Diana Vernon, the adventurous and capable heroine of Walter Scott’s 1818 novel *Rob Roy*. However, this cherished identity and the exhilaration and excitement farm work obviously provided would no longer be available to her once she entered the urban environment of Hobart.

Importantly, Annie’s friends in the Port Fairy region knew how things stood between her and Baxter. They had often witnessed his abusive language and violent outbursts and were generally sensitive of, and sympathetic to, her situation. William Learmonth and Christopher Aplin were visitors at Yambuk during one such episode. Annie’s report of this incident indicates that Learmonth had pledged his support for her, while Aplin had condemned Baxter for “cowardly, unmanly abuse” and “uncalled for and improper” conduct towards her (7 May 1849).²

² Annie sets this down as a “few domestic anecdotes, for the benefit of any person who may read these Pages” (7 May 1849). In this respect, Annie was clearly using her journal to justify her decision to leave Baxter, as in the same entry she records the infidelity which had caused irreparable damage to their relationship. Susan Bunkers identifies a similar strategy in the journal of Emily Gillespie. Bunkers argues that Gillespie recorded her husband’s abuse to demonstrate its increasing frequency, to validate her refusal

In contrast she had no certainty that she would be accepted and supported to the same degree in Van Diemen's Land. Her friends there had no recent experience of relations between her and Baxter, and although Annie had some loyal supporters many were quick to condemn, as over the years she had accrued a reputation for scandalous behaviour. Added to this, many women (and men) were of the firm opinion that once a woman had married she was bound to support her husband whatever the circumstances.

Scandal, whether deserved or not, had been a part of Annie's life since her ill-advised attendance at James Youl's shooting party in 1837. Since then she had from time to time attracted unwelcome and often unwarranted criticism. In 1847 rumours circulated that she had nursed Richard Dry after a serious fall from his horse. Annie, who had been in Hobart when the accident occurred in December 1846, dismisses it vehemently as a "cruel, wanton attack on [her] character" and a "diabolical falsehood" (18 Feb. 1847). Similarly, Bessie tormented her in Hobart soon after her arrival in 1848 when she told a story which Annie writes was "generally believed here [VDL], with regard to myself and M^r Dry." Although Annie "wish[es] it were even probable or possible that such a thing could occur," she dismisses it as "too outré to think of!" (3 Aug. 1848). Annie, an experienced practitioner of the art of scandal and gossip, and even a supporter of its function as a form of social control (19 Dec. 1844), was well aware that this kind of report, even though lacking substance, "in a quiet way, gain[ed] ground" and could be socially damaging (8 Sep. 1848).

To further complicate matters, William had been associated with a recent scandal of his own. In Annie's absence, his affairs had been very publicly aired when a libel action he had brought against the publishers of the Hobart newspaper the *Courier* occupied the newspapers in the colony for several days. William brought the charge after the proprietors of the publication criticised the dismissal of charges against him for "indecent conduct in the public street." These

that such behaviour was normal and as evidence in the event she should file for divorce ("Diaries" 224). Both Annie's and Gillespie's inclusion of this material reflected current attitudes to marriage and separation. Separation, although becoming more acceptable, was still regarded by some as flouting biblical authority (Bunkers, "Diaries" 224).

charges arose when William, in a drunken state, had urinated in public and insulted, in language “wholly unfit for publication” (*CT* 27 Mar. 1849), Mary Anne Northmore and her husband George, both of whom were former convicts, but currently managed a dairy at the top of Davey Street. William had subsequently charged the two with assault (Mary Anne Northmore had reportedly scratched William’s face); the case was heard, and Mrs Northmore was convicted and fined three pounds and costs. The newspaper’s editors, angry that William had escaped without punishment for his misdemeanour, argued that justice in the colony was perverted and had become a mere “byeword, a mockery and a reproach” (*CT* 27 Mar. 1849). William won the action he had instigated but the newspaper report of the court case had made the extent and nature of his actions public knowledge. The motivation for the newspaper’s extensive coverage of the affair was almost certainly political, and designed to demonstrate the inequities in a legal system which the editors considered privileged people like William, who were members of the colonial elite in Hobart.

But perhaps the prime cause of Annie’s anxiety and sadness was the realisation that as a separated woman her social position was insecure. Although it was generally accepted by the 1830s that women should be supported to leave unhappy marriages, there was no agreement about an acceptable course of behaviour afterwards. Lawrence Stone observes that by the terms of separation agreements the husband was usually bound not to molest or sue his wife and to allow her to live where and with whom she pleased (153).³ But while theoretically Annie was free to form another relationship, in practical terms there were associated difficulties. Clauses guaranteeing social and sexual freedom, although frequently included in private separation agreements, were never acknowledged as legally binding by the courts (Stone 162). As such they were of limited value and Stone argues that, however cleverly worded they were, they could not

³ Stone’s observations relate specifically to an English situation but comments made by Henry Finlay suggest that the same principles applied in the Australian colonies (74-75). Annie certainly demonstrates familiarity with the English system. Accusations of Baxter’s adultery were seen as offering “a capital chance of Separation” and she answers his initial refusal to consider financial settlement with a threat to “throw the whole into Chancery” (3 May 1849) if he did not agree. The High Court of Chancery in England was authorised to apply principles of equity to individual cases brought before it. Its decisions were based on fairness rather than precedence. It was more binding than the informal separation Annie sought, but would have meant some public airing of their affairs.

prevent a husband from suing his wife for separation on grounds of adultery. Stone makes the point that while a separated husband could keep a mistress with impunity, the slightest sexual slip on the part of his separated wife would allow him to stop paying her maintenance and would result in the public social humiliation and financial ruin of his estranged wife and consort (169). If Annie took the socially perilous step of entering into cohabitation arrangements with another man, Baxter could legally sue her for divorce on the grounds of adultery and sue the man with whom she lived for engaging in “criminal conversation” with his wife. In this respect Annie’s options for forming a relationship with another man were indeed limited.

Van Diemen’s Land 1849 – 1851

Annie’s reception in Van Diemen’s Land was mixed. In Launceston she was confronted by allegations of impropriety arising from a shared coach journey with Henry Hadley at the time of her departure from the colony in February 1849. She had a disagreement with Dry and was censured (most likely by her good friend Maria Davies) for some assumptions and allegations concerning Mrs Barrow, who was Dry’s current consort. But in Hobart, in contrast to Annie’s last visit in 1848 when she was virtually ignored on arrival, she was warmly welcomed. Hadley was at the Coach Office to greet her and the carriage was waiting to take her to William’s house. The children were well and pleased to see her, and she was affectionately reunited with Ada, her beloved dog. William, who “was snoozing in his bed” (27 June 1849) when Annie arrived, presented her with a mare for her own use. Annie’s friends Dr and Mrs William Dawson, Mrs Amelia Burgess and her daughter, Miss Ellen Burgess, along with Reverend Davies were early visitors to William’s house to see her. She suffered a minor setback when she was publicly ignored by Mrs Despard, wife of Colonel Henry Despard, commanding officer of the 99th Foot, then stationed in Hobart. Such an act of deliberate exclusion was potentially damaging in polite colonial society (Russell, *Wish* 14-15).

However, any detrimental effect which resulted from this public snub was more than compensated for a few days later, when Lieutenant-Governor William Denison’s wife, Lady

Caroline, called on Annie. Even though Denison was unpopular, particularly with wealthy and influential people opposed to transportation and committed to some form of representative government, vice-regal patronage was still considered important in the colonial environment. Alison Alexander describes the governor's wife as the "apex of society" and comments that those "entertainments she honoured with her presence became socially acceptable [and that] people asked to government house were also" (178). The importance of her position was not lost on Caroline Denison who wrote: "Being, or not being, admitted [at Government House] is, in the first place considered as the great criterion of a person's social position" (58). In this respect Lady Denison's call on Annie, whose brother was a member of Sir William's regiment, sent a powerful message to the residents of Hobart.

Initially this social endorsement did little to improve Annie's mood and her record of her early weeks in the colony indicates that she was deeply troubled. On 7 July 1849 she prefaces a very long entry with the comment that her "troubled self" will never be "at rest" and on 13 July she laments that "[a]ll are in bed long ago" while she was "sitting by the fire, feeling very unhappy, and out of humour with all Mankind!" However, in the weeks that followed, she became increasingly pre-occupied by the "affairs of every day life" (7 July 1849) and her melancholy receded to some extent, although anxiety about respectability and suggestions of unhappiness and suffering continue to be recorded. She assumed responsibility for William's children and was soon occupied with the management of his house. Her social network was re-established and she resumed a romantic friendship with Henry Hadley.

The Journal Record June 1849 – January 1851

Annie's record of the eighteen months she resided in Van Diemen's Land between June 1849 and January 1850 extends over four volumes of her journal. The account of this period of her life commences towards the end of the volume begun in Hobart in December 1848 (Volume 15) and concludes about half-way through the 120-page volume started in August 1850 and inscribed by Annie as "Vol: 18th." These four volumes are catalogued as Notebooks 11 to 14 in the Dixon

Manuscript collection. In all she fills 550 journal pages and writes approximately 85,500 words during this period. Stylistically, Annie in this section of the journal applies the same degree of aesthetic awareness and commitment to continuity which characterised her record of her fourth visit to the colony. Comprehensive entries were made regularly, usually every couple of days, and, as before, Annie would usually explain a significant gap in her writing. However, her obligation to the journal was not obsessive in that if there was a long period between entries she would not try to write up everything which had occurred in this interval. Rather, she explains the reason for her silence and sometimes proffers an apology but does not feel compelled to embark on an unenthusiastic account of perhaps unremarkable days.

For much of this visit Annie's life was distinguished by regularity. Typically she supervised the children's lessons in the morning and rode in the afternoon. She had a circle of friends – Miss Elizabeth Buckland, the Misses Charlotte and Marianne Burnett, Mrs Eleanor [Nelly] Curll, Dr Henry Hadley, Captain Deering and Andrew Clarke – with whom she socialised on a regular basis and whose activities, qualities and shortcomings are reported in her journal. Annie's record of this experience is comprehensive and the level of detail in the journal is such that information about morning, afternoon and evening activities is customarily reported. But although Annie's days were distinguished by a degree of sameness, her diary is not overly repetitious. Experiments with format allow her to present what is basically the same material in a variety of ways. Variations such as an increasing departure from a chronological mode of delivery of each day's report, incorporation of direct speech, the development of a conversational narrative style and foreshadowing, together with the increased inclusion of anecdotes and puns, ensure that the record she creates is largely an interesting, amusing and entertaining account of life.

Annie's anecdotal writings are often carefully composed social comedies which are neither class nor gender specific. Men and women, rich and poor, free and unfree are variously the subject of her observations. Where women and servants are concerned the anecdote is often identified as colonial. Such inclusions are not specifically records of Annie's personal experience; they are rather literary performances which often comment on colonial manners and mores and

which, as Robert Fothergill remarks, throw “light upon [their] speaker” (26). In this case they function partly to establish Annie as a sophisticated observer of life in colonial Hobart. If men are the protagonists in such stories, then Annie’s object is often to demonstrate their shortcomings and thus undermine an accepted doctrine of masculine superiority. This practice, as Cynthia Huff notes, was not uncommon in the diaries of nineteenth-century women (*British* xxvii).

This section of the journal is also marked by Annie’s growing self-consciousness of herself as a writer and her journal as a work of literary endeavour. References to time, place and mood of writing preface her entries on a number of occasions and draw attention to the actual practice or activity of writing. On several occasions Annie refers to her journal as a “book” (20 Aug. 49; 10 Oct. 49; 25 Dec. 1849; 13 Aug. 1850; 31 Aug. 1850), and on another she describes it as a “work” (13 Aug. 1849). Accompanying this is an increasing awareness of the journal as “narrative.” Narrative for Annie is an account of her day and is generally distinguished from more introspective writing. This point is made explicit in her entry of 20 January 1850 in which she comments she must “resume my evening’s narrative” after she has interrupted her account of activities for the past days with a rumination on her virtue. Annie’s narration is firmly embedded in the everyday, and although her focus remains personal it expands to include news of Hobart Town and the trials and tribulations of her friends and acquaintances, many of whom are developed as “characters” in the journal. This development, together with the literary experiments described above, indicate the journal’s personal significance for Annie while at the same time signalling an increasing awareness of the public dimensions of the journal, elevating it above the status of a private personal record and inviting association with published literary texts.

Lucy Frost argues that in this period Annie’s horizons contracted. She became embroiled in local affairs and the “expansiveness” which had characterised her writing at Yambuk disappeared in the eighteen months she was in Hobart (*Face* 134). Indeed, much of what Annie wrote – grounded as it was in the everyday – could be dismissed as trivial. And while it is difficult to deny that the amount of writing can sometimes be overwhelming, careful reading is rewarded, as Annie’s quotidian and detailed record is an important and interesting, if not unique, personal and

social document that is a rich repository of information about many aspects of colonial life in Van Diemen's Land during this period. As before, the journal is not overly focused on descriptions and documentary detail. Physical locations are rarely described but nevertheless a sense of material and embodied space emerges through the detailed report of activity in various locations. Annie's focus in this section, as in the others, is on activity and interaction and as such her record is revealing about social, family and domestic dynamics. Her record is an unfolding drama in which faces, voices and personalities – some of which belong to persons of historical note and others who would otherwise be lost to history – are brought to life.

Annie predominantly relates the activities of those members of Hobart society who considered themselves part of the colonial elite and is thus a sound source for information about their cultural and social practices. Theatre evenings, numerous picnics, race meetings, afternoons at the band, balls at Government House and dances in various colonial houses are all described to some degree. Annie's journal indicates an active consumer culture: shopping expeditions and taking refreshments at various establishments are often mentioned and for a time in 1850 Annie and her friends were significantly focused on photographic (daguerreotype) and wax likenesses. At various times, Annie's commentary hints at military inefficiencies and certainly indicates that military and government officials had ample time to pursue leisure activities. Her brother William's duties enabled him to enjoy a social life which included attendance at various country hunting and racing meetings, and likewise accommodated frequent nocturnal ramblings.

Hobart in the 1840s was a "complicated community, a confused and contradictory place" (Bolger 40). The population of the city was fast approaching 25,000 and was comprised of prosperous free settlers and merchants, military officers and government officers, working-class immigrants and convicts, whose numbers burgeoned after the cessation of transportation to New South Wales in 1840. John West, a staunch opponent of transportation, observes that between 1840 and 1847 as many as 25,228 prisoners had been transported to the colony (213). Bolger argues that, alongside prosperity and refinement, convict labourers worked in chain gangs, free immigrants without funds built temporary shelters and a pub culture flourished (41). Annie's

diary captures this aspect of colonial society. Crime is regularly reported as well as interaction with members of Hobart society who were outside Annie's social group and who were not her servants. Annie was regularly disturbed in her house and on one occasion witnessed the murder of her neighbour, Thomas Sockett, who "earned a living by washing" (*Courier* 17 Oct. 1849).

Lloyd Robson identifies a "degree of democratic sentiment" in Hobart in this period. He attributes this to a process of social inversion whereby the artisan and tradesmen emerged as the "men of money" and people of influence. Financially they rivalled, and in some cases outstripped, those government and military officers who were on fixed salaries (457). Robson argues that, because of the troubled history of the colony, many feared the growth of democracy which would give an element of power to the previously oppressed. Annie was socially and politically conservative but some of her journal entries reflect the debate in favour of a more egalitarian society. Familiarity with this rhetoric is largely present as criticism of her friend Henry Hadley. After he loses his cap at the High School Fête, attended by "all the rabble of the town ... with a small sprinkling of the better class," she was pleased that "he was subjected to even temporary inconvenience thro' them" (21 Jan 1850). Annie had chosen not to attend this event, which the *Hobart Town Advertiser* indicates was over-subscribed with more than four hundred people in attendance. There were more people than places and when the governor departed "those who had not been able to obtain a seat before now took their place" (22 Jan. 1850). Annie was critical of Hadley when he insisted on inviting a Mr Rose to the officer's mess at the military barracks: "I still think he has a business to bring such men to his Mess; to associate with gentlemen" (11 Apr. 1850).

But the distinction Annie makes is hard to maintain, as other records for January 1850 indicate. The sincere hospitality of "an old soldier of the 63rd" who offered to share his provisions with Annie and her friends while they were riding on Mt. Wellington is compared to the disingenuous hospitality of "more refined persons":

He was anxious for us to have luncheon; and, not like most of we more refined persons, not only asked, but spread out his little store, in a truly hospitable

style. We may frequently learn from those in more humble life, some of the Christian virtues! I have been often told that such unbounded hospitality & kindness as are practised in the Wilds of Australia for instance, are only symptoms of “Savage life”! Give me such. (30 Jan. 1850)

Similarly she acknowledges the part played by Hadley’s servant in assisting a “M^r Parker, who [was] in debt very much” in “getting away from Hobart Town.” Parker’s escape was facilitated by “the joint efforts and kindness of D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} Montgomerie & Akers, and the former’s servant.” She concludes that: “[w]e learn by this, in what a variety of ways, men may serve their fellow men = how the lower class may be useful to the higher; (I was going to say ‘better’ – but surely this would be a misapplication of the term!) and how very right it is for ‘brethren to dwell together, in Unity’” (16 Jan. 1850). Although Annie’s comments are in both cases underpinned by conservative Christian, rather than liberal political rhetoric, they nevertheless reflect the inevitable ways in which old habits, attitudes and beliefs were being challenged in this era.

Annie’s journal for this period is characterised by an increased focus on domesticity. That is not to say that she writes at length about day-to-day household chores. Rather, she gives some indication of household management and concentrates on her relations with the servants in the house and the lives of children. Annie’s descriptions are not detailed but the journal is invaluable in terms of what it demonstrates about family dynamics and responsibilities and power relationships in the domestic environment. The journal chronicles Annie’s developing relationship with the children, particularly little Annie, and in so doing provides some insight into the ways in which they passed their days. Annie’s record demonstrates her devotion and commitment to the children while at the same time it shows the involvement and inclusion of children in adult lives as they often accompany adults on social outings. While Annie’s depiction of her relationship with the children as close and informal contradicts the more conventional understanding of this dynamic in Victorian households as formal, it does not conflict with contemporary understandings of attitudes towards, and responsibilities for children, servants and home in this era. Annie

assumed responsibility for all three as William played no part in the management of his household or the care of his children.

Annie's record of her relationship with the servants working in the house complicates the stereotypical and dominant view that servants were habitually insubordinate and largely treated badly by their masters and mistresses. Annie had left all in order at the house prior to her departure in February 1849, but in the four months she had been absent, the situation had deteriorated. The servants with whom she had established a good rapport after Bessie's death are reported as frequently drunk. Following her return, the journal documents a steadily worsening situation. She writes that "John [is] quite 'fou'⁴ again" and does not "give [them] dinner until nearly 8 o'clock" (17 Sep. 1849). On another occasion he was drunk to the point of being "quite unfit to attend to anything," while Ann is described by Annie as "very little better; and very dosey." Annie persevered with the drunkenness of John and Ann for some months before she dismissed them. And while her patience could be attributed to the dearth of good servants in the colony, the attitude, at least as she reports it, was more indulgent and understanding than sanctimonious. Unlike a number of other diarists of the period, Annie does not concentrate solely on the negative aspects of her servants' behaviour (Dyster 65); she rather makes note of the assistance they render. Similarly, in another departure from the norm, she sought medical advice for them when it was required.⁵

While Annie's relationship with the children was strengthened, her once close relationship with William deteriorated. William led a bachelor existence where drinking and card parties were regular occurrences for him and his cronies. His nights were spent out and about the town drinking, gambling and chasing after women. He continued to lead what Annie describes as a "sad life" (11 Apr. 1850) and she became increasingly critical of his behaviour. She ceases to refer to him endearingly and he becomes simply "W.C." As Cynthia Huff points out, such changes of inscription are often significant ("Reading" 514), in this case indicating the degree to

⁴ Mad (French)

⁵ Leonore Davidoff and Catherine Hall argue that an employer was obligated to provide this level of care for servants in their employ (390-91).

which the once revered William has fallen in his sister's estimation and the gulf that is growing between them. They signal Annie's dissatisfaction with William's behaviour and voice a disapproval which is not directly articulated. She reports his activities but her entries demonstrate that she was rarely included in many of his activities.

In her household management and in her interactions with William's children and the servants, Annie established her competence and proved herself to be a just mistress and kind and caring aunt. However, in much of her interaction with her female friends – Charlotte and Marianne Burnett, Elizabeth Buckland and Nelly Curl in particular – she reveals herself in a less flattering light. Annie had initially been well disposed towards all of these women but as time passed she became increasingly critical of them. The relationships she records are characterised by an increasing focus on the inadequacies and shortcomings of these women and serve to demonstrate her greater sophistication, desirability and intelligence. But while critical of these women, she remains loyal to her friends Maria Davies, Jessie Smythe (née Allan) and Marion McLean (née McLeod) and is staunch in her support of women abused by men or accused, without firm evidence, of impropriety.

Annie writes at length about the attention she gave and received from several men. Chief among them was Henry Hadley, a military surgeon with whom Annie had become friendly during her previous visit to the colony and with whom she resumed her romantic involvement when she returned to the colony. The relationship was characterised by varying degrees of intensity and its frustrating and unsatisfying trajectory exemplifies the difficulties which Annie faced. The sceptre of scandal hovered over the relationship as Annie worried about the impropriety of Hadley's visits to the house. Although Hadley was privately attentive, he was publicly indifferent and easily distracted. In some respects he trifled with her affections as perhaps she did with his. Another of her consorts was Josiah Thompson, a Royal Navy chaplain on board the British man-of-war *Maeander*, which visited Hobart in March-April 1850. He was a guest in William's house and soon became a favourite with Annie. He was not distracted by the male pleasures of a port and became Annie's devoted companion – they spent long nights together talking and, unlike Hadley,

he had no qualms about associating with Annie in public. At the same time she resumed a correspondence with Robert Massie – an old suitor from Port Macquarie days and incidentally the keeper of the two missing journals from the early 1840s – after a silence of six years. Massie’s actions were likely opportunistic and almost certainly motivated by the knowledge that Annie had left Yambuk and Baxter. She also delights in recounting a flirtation with Andrew Clarke, a friend of William’s and a frequent visitor to the house, who was eight years her junior and private secretary to Sir William Denison. He was recognised by Annie as a “little above the common herd” (26 Aug. 1848), and was popular and well respected in the colony. Annie, well-versed in the ways of polite society, pretended indifference to Clarke’s interest, but the degree of attention devoted to it in her journal indicates that she was clearly flattered. Richard Dry continued to be a regular figure in Annie’s journal. In 1849-1850 they met frequently as Dry was often a guest in William’s house. Annie was at pains to emphasise that the relationship between them at this point was platonic. In this respect she seeks, as before, to distinguish their relationship from his romantic involvement with a number of other women. Yet, it is obvious from the journal that she considers there is an undeniable attraction between them. They rarely socialise publicly but Annie reports that he came frequently to read with her. She was certainly a confidant and reports his frustration and agitation with the political situation and his seemingly never-ending financial woes.

While Annie’s focus on these personal relationships is to a degree tedious, they are significant in that they highlight the difficulty of her position as a separated woman who enjoyed the companionship and attentions of men but who was precluded from forming a socially acceptable liaison. This preoccupation is a testimony to Annie’s inherent anxiety and insecurity. While on the one hand it confirms Annie’s knowledge of propriety and establishes her respectability, it also works to position her as a desirable companion. By this time Annie, who readily admitted to being vain, was in her mid-thirties. Her focus demonstrates that it was important for her to be acknowledged as an attractive and popular companion, but one who was, nevertheless, respectable. It is well to remember here that while the journal was being written

with an eye to posterity it was also regularly given to Annie's admirers. Hadley and Thompson were both readers. In this respect the diary can perhaps be considered as functioning to inform them in no uncertain terms of the limits of her involvement.

Annie's insecurity and comparative powerlessness are also betrayed in records of dreams, and associations of herself with those women whom she considers less fortunate or less virtuous than herself. In Victorian society modesty, refinement and moral virtue were deemed integral to claims for respectable femininity. Virtue and respectability were defined against the "subordinated, sexualised and disorderly body of the working-class woman, and particularly the prostitute" (Russell, *Wish* 93). Annie's occasional preoccupation with such women is in part an identification with them, as well as an acknowledgement, or awareness, of the precariousness of her position in colonial society, and perhaps an indication of the pressure and difficulty she felt to maintain her respectability.

By 1850 Annie had lived almost half her thirty-four years in the Australian colonies. When she had arrived in Van Diemen's Land in 1834 her national and cultural affiliations had been unreservedly to England. Annie, having "fully made up [her] mind never to like any person out of it" (15 Apr. 1838), imagined that her future lay there. Her early journal entries, although limited, articulate a sense of dislocation and disappointment in the colonial environment: silence about her immediate location suggests indifference, while a strong interest in letters received and sent indicates that her personal and cultural allegiance remained with her parent culture. Although Annie's initial certainty about her future was challenged as her involvement in the local community increased and circumstances in England changed, her identity in the 1830s remained English. When she was ostracised by the colonial elite in 1838 for her involvement with Richard Dry and presumed neglect of her husband, she retaliated with a spirited assertion of her superior subjectivity as an Englishwoman of gentle birth. She condemned her detractors vehemently for their "purse-pride" and dismissed their "Pleb[e]ian blood" as "beneath [her] notice" (8 Sep. 1838). However, the distinctions and allegiances Annie made in the 1830s were not so easily reprised as the time for her departure drew nearer in 1850.

Annie's record of her fifth visit to Van Diemen's Land was made with the knowledge that her departure from the Australian colonies was inevitable and possibly imminent. She had no clear idea about when she would leave, as this was dependent on the arrival of an officer of the Royal Engineer Corps to replace William. References to departure, peppered throughout the record of this visit, are testimony to the significance of this eventuality for Annie. As early as September 1849 she comments that "William talks of going home in January" and that she "intend[s] getting [her] clothes ready for the Voyage" (3 Sep. 1849), while in June 1850 she attributes William's "ill temper" to the prospect of leaving (19 June 1850). Where once a return to England would have been a cause of celebration for Annie, it was now a source of distress. Her attachment to the Australian colonies and people was significant, as her categorical statement "Oh! how I shall regret leaving this Country, and some of my friends here" (3 Sep. 1849) attests. In other journal entries Annie undermines the accepted metropolitan view that colonial culture was somehow inferior (McKenzie 5). She acknowledges many of her "native-born" friends as respectable, sincere and generous people. She endorses colonial culture when she expresses a preference for the "unbounded hospitality & kindness" that was practised in the "Wilds of Australia" but which was culturally denigrated in the metropole as associated with "Savage life" (30 Jan. 1850). Moreover, the use of "our" as a pronoun to qualify "bush slab huts" (1 Aug. 1849) indicates an identification with the colonial culture. Annie by this time had become in a sense "colonial" insofar as she identified with her adopted culture and endorsed some of its practices as superior to those of her parent culture. This experience was not unusual, as Delys Bird's analysis of some of the personal writing of emigrant colonial women demonstrates.⁶ Bird observes a transformation in the writing of many of these women in which an initial negative focus on the "strangeness" (22) of the new environment is replaced by a more positive one, which associates their adopted land with productivity, pleasure, opportunity and freedom (27-31).

Annie's connection and commitment to colonial culture was not, however, absolute. She continued to deploy "colonial" as a descriptive term to indicate breaches of etiquette and a lack of

⁶ Bird's analysis in "Gender and Landscape: Australian Colonial Women Writers" considers the section of Annie Baxter's journal published in Frost's *No Place for a Nervous Lady*.

sophistication. While the tone of many of these occurrences is not malicious, the repeated invocation of “colonial” as a category of difference suggests a desire to maintain a connection to, and identification with, the metropole. Indeed, while her connection to the metropolitan centre was compromised by colonial experience it was not severed: England – which she acknowledges on the *Calcutta* in 1851 as “my own Country” – remains “home” (3 Sep. 1849) and her absence is figured as “exile” (Frost, *No Place* 111). In this respect, Annie’s record of her fifth visit to Van Diemen’s Land functions as testimony to the confusion and complexity which was an integral and inevitable aspect of the movement between cultures.

Journal 15 June 1849 – 15 January 1851

June 15th Friday. On Wednesday morning as I was dressing, M^r Connolly¹ came to my door, and said that I must get ready immediately, as the *City of Sydney*² would not anchor, and therefore we must go off at once.

I was ready in a very few minutes, and Baxter walked down with me to the wharf. He came with me on board, & appeared sadly distressed at my going, and said he should go over to Hobart Town in the next *City of Sydney*. He really looked wretched! and I was forced from humanity alone, to say that I would make no promises about coming back or not; so that if I have used a little deception, 'tis in a good cause; for had I positively said I would not return, he would have allowed everything to go to ruin; & himself, taken to drink. ...

We are at anchor in the Tamar, or I should not be writing so easily; we've had a quick passage; but very unfortunately the wind does not answer, and we must remain until the Steamer³ or the tide have mercy on us. ...

June 17th Sunday. How often when we expect little, we receive much! So it was with us yesterday; for we had given up all idea of getting to Launceston, and were on the eve of dropping anchor, when we were rejoiced by hearing the Steamer from afar; and soon after, she was towing us along in good style, & we again, kindly giving a line to the *Swan*.⁴ In this manner we had the delight of getting up to town by ½ past 9.

I waited for nobody; and M^r Griffiths⁵ got into a boat, & I with him; the other passenger, whose name I shall never remember,⁶ came likewise, & actually carried my Carpet Bag for me!!

¹ Michael Connolly (1809-1855), with whom AB had been friendly in Launceston in the 1830s, had lived in Port Fairy since about 1839, where he operated a whaling station in partnership with John Griffiths (Powling 4). He was married to Rachel Emeline Bostock (b. 1822) (see entry 14 Mar. 1838).

² 106-ton brig, commanded by Captain Fawthorpe, sailed from Portland 11 June, arrived Belfast 13 June and sailed for Launceston that same day. There were six cabin passengers and three in steerage.

³ The 200-ton steamer *Shamrock* travelled regularly between Launceston, Melbourne and Sydney. It departed Launceston 13-14 June and arrived Melbourne 16 June. Presumably the vessel had interrupted its voyage to help the *City of Sydney*.

⁴ 149-ton brig, commanded by Captain Tregurtha, from Melbourne.

⁵ John Griffiths (1801-1881), business partner of Michael Connolly. Griffiths had property and business interests in Launceston (see entry 30 Nov. 1844).

How joyously I feel when in this dear old place! Oh! why am I always recalling the pleasures of the Past, when the Present presents such continual woe and bitterness to me! Memory —

I did not like to disturb M^r Dry last night, as I heard that he had a few friends with him; and much as I always wish to chat with him, I only this time wrote him a note, asking him to come and see me this morning – which he did. He looks very ill, and is suffering from some complaint of his heart. M^r C. Henty⁷ called before Church; both, were much shocked to hear of M^r Chiene's death.⁸

I dined with M^r & M^{rs} Macgregor;⁹ luncheoned at M^{rs} Welman's; and went to Church in the evening with them, and M^r Dry sat with me in the evening. He is going to California, with several others; how sincerely I hope he may prosper there; both in his health & prospects.¹⁰ How I love the good creature! ...

June 19th Tuesday. I am writing in my bed room at the Parsonage; M^r Jocelyn Thomas¹¹ kindly drove me out this afternoon. ...

I've had much unhappiness these two days: of course, I can anticipate nothing else = and this time, 'twas mostly of my own creating. This is a Sorry World for some of us!

I was shown a note (or part of one, I should say) wherein the person says – “Poor M^{rs} Baxter is not free from the scandal of this place; D^r Hadley it is said, went in the Mail with her across the country; – and from what then passed” ~ ~

⁶ This passenger was James Trangmar (c. 1820-1888) a landowner in the Portland region and a local politician. (de Serville, *Pounds* 490).

⁷ Charles Shum Henty (1807 - 1864) was the son of Thomas Henty and Frances Elizabeth Hopkins. He arrived in VDL from the Swan River settlement in 1832, married Susan Boniface of Kinfield, Sussex in 1835. He was appointed managing director and cashier of the newly established Launceston branch of the Bank of Australasia.

⁸ Walter Glas Cheine “committed suicide, by shooting himself” (AB journal 11 June 1849) at Port Fairy on 10 June 1849. Annie and Baxter had known Chiene in Launceston in the 1830s and were among the first to visit his widow after his death.

⁹ Likely to be Samuel Macgregor (1824-1908) and his wife, friends of AB's from Port Fairy. Macgregor, born Perth, Scotland, arrived Port Phillip (possibly from VDL) in 1840, and held Eumeralla West (north of Yambuk) 1846-1849. He was a partner in the merchant firm of Rutledge, Macgregor & Co. based in Warrnambool in the 1850s.

¹⁰ Gold had been discovered in the American River, Sierra Nevada Mountains, California in 1848. Richard Dry, along with D'Arcy Wentworth and A.J. Marriot had reportedly purchased the 500-ton vessel *Stirlingshire* with the intention of transporting passengers and goods to California (*Courier* 23 June 1849).

¹¹ See note for entry 2 Dec. 1846.

These words were dashed, as I've put them; and need I say that the epistle was from a jealous woman! M^{rs} Barrow – shall pay for this. I said “What a wretch, to try & make mischief in this way = she must be guilty of the same, or would never conceive it”! “She is not a wretch; & not so guilty as some imagine”! was the rejoinder.

June 21st Thursday – On Tuesday afternoon M^r Jocelyn Thomas drove me out to the Parsonage; before I left, M^r Dry sat some time with me, and seemed quite to have forgiven all my rudeness & unkind truths I had told him. H.D.L.M.A.E. – I told him I thought he was sulky, by not coming to chat with me last evening; but he said he did not know I had a sitting room up stairs.

D^r & M^{rs} Kilgour were here when I came; Maria had come down stairs for the first time since her confinement, which took place a month ago.¹² She has a really pretty little girl; it has such large blue eyes. M^{rs} Lyttleton is very busy with the child, as she says “Altho' I did not wish for it; now it is come, some one must take care of it, poor child”! She is the same unselfish soul as ever. She likes D^r Hadley very much; he is so very attentive & kind, she tells me; & he sent her some warm mittens! Poor fellow! he will be so sorry to receive my note by M^r Macgregor last evening = but it is only right to tell him what I did. ...

Today M^{rs} Lyttleton & I went over to Clarendon: we found all at home: it is a beautiful house, & the Grounds very pretty.¹³ Poor M^{rs} Chiene! when I spoke to M^r Cox of her coming away from where she was, he said very coldly “Has she no neighbours”? “She must live in some small town, where she can educate her children”! When I looked at the fine house, & heard him say “That is my Overseer's house; this is my Woolshed”: and then brought his unfortunate child to my mind's eye – the beautiful story of the Prodigal son recurred to me, and I inwardly said “I will arise and go to my Father, and say”:¹⁴ etc. Oh! how I grieve for her! but then again this is to be said in his favor: that it would never do to risk her polluting his second family!

¹² Mary Davies, fourth child of Rowland Davies and his wife Maria was born in 1849.

¹³ This was AB's first visit to James Cox's (q.v.) property Clarendon since 1838. In the intervening years the house had been rebuilt and considerable improvements made. Cox lived there with his second wife Eliza and their young family of six daughters and one son. His daughter Rebecca Chiene was a child of his first marriage to Mary Connelly.

¹⁴ Luke 15:18 from the parable of the lost son Luke 15: 11-32. AB clearly disapproves of his lack of compassion for his daughter.

We called on our way to Clarendon at Symmon's Plains, and luncheoned there; M^{rs} Youl is in an interesting situation, and it is very visible.¹⁵ M^r Youl was from home.

We paid a visit to M^{rs} Mary Archer,¹⁶ and found M^{rs} Cathcart¹⁷ there; and then proceeded to Woolmers; where I've passed too many happy days. M^{rs} Archer, Martha, Ellen¹⁸ and M^r R. Kermode¹⁹ were there, but dear M^r Archer could not leave his room. ...

June [27th] Wednesday. How singular my putting off so long writing in this book! My hours have been completely employed. On Friday afternoon, I was driven over to Perth, and there met the Coach with "Joey"²⁰ on the top. M^r C. Henty, I regretted was not there; and so I had to do the amiable to a M^r Kay.²¹

We got thro' the journey very well, and arrived in Hobart Town in very good time on Saturday morning. My delight was great in seeing D^r Hadley standing at the Coach Office; it was so kind, so thoughtful! He looks very ill indeed.

The carriage was waiting for me; and I was soon home; William, the lazy fellow! was snoozing in his bed with the curtains so carefully tucked in; and dear Ada! was fast asleep, until she heard my voice, when her recognition was most affectionate. The Beauty! she looks very smooth in the skin, but rather thin. I sent in for Louis, and the dear boy was so glad to see me; he is looking very pale & delicate. Annie came home from Miss Burnett's; she is much improved in her appearance, and is stouter than she was. ...

Yesterday William gave me a handsome Mare, which I rode for the first time: she has never been even tried with a sheet; and yet she carried me so beautifully. He gave too – a pretty bouquet holder. I have called my Mare Zoë. ...

¹⁵ Alfred, sixth child of James and Eliza Youl, was born August 1849.

¹⁶ Mary, née Abbott, was the widow of Thomas William Archer (1817-1844), and the mother of Thomas Chalmers Archer (b.1840) and Louisa Susan Archer (b.1843). Archer died after contracting scarletina.

¹⁷ Probably Mary Jane, née Welsh, wife of George Cathcart.

¹⁸ Ellen or Eleanor (b.1825), second daughter of Thomas Archer (q.v.), married Alfred Stackhouse in 1843.

¹⁹ Robert Quayle Kermode (1812-1870), eldest child and only son of William and Ann Kermode, arrived VDL in 1827 with his father and established Mona Vale at Ross. In 1839 he married Martha Archer who died in 1853 after producing six sons.

²⁰ AB's parrot, brought from Yambuk.

²¹ Not identified.

Miss Buckland came in on Sunday, and yesterday dined with me; we were sitting quietly discussing our “politics”, when D^{rs} Dawson & Hadley; M^r Davies & William came in from the Mess; Miss Buckland sang sweetly for us; and she & I played alternately for the Polka to be danced. [...]

June [28th] Thursday. ... I don't think I've mentioned Tom's²² departure on Wednesday morning, for Longford; he gave a fraternal kiss at parting. I sent Maria a beautiful little cloak for Baby; and asked them to call her Evelyn.

This afternoon we went to hear the Band in the Barracks,²³ and I took Marianne Burnett & the two other children. Col: Despard stood talking to me for some time; but to my amazement when M^{rs} Despard came, she did not recognize me; – whether purposely or not, I cannot say. The Band played several very pretty pieces of music, and I was sorry to be obliged to leave before the end, as I had to go into the Town. The Misses Burnett, on my return, sat with me until dark. D^r & M^{rs} Brock²⁴ called today, M^{rs} Richardson,²⁵ and D^r & M^{rs} Agnew.²⁶

June [30th] Saturday – Miss Buckland came in yesterday morning, and we altered the place for the piano to stand. D^r & M^{rs} Bedford, M^r & M^{rs} Drake, Miss B— and M^r Mercer²⁷ dined with us = the latter returned in the afternoon from Oatlands. We called on M^r & M^{rs} Frazer,²⁸ M^r & M^{rs} J. Burnett,²⁹ & Government House. M^{rs} Burnett is petite, with pretty eyes – and a delightful figure to the waist, but we agree in thinking she can have no hips!

²² Tom Lyttleton (q.v.).

²³ The band of the 99th performed every Thursday in Barrack Square at 2.00 p.m. The performance and program were advertised the day before in the *Courier*.

²⁴ Dr Henry Gordon Brock, R.N. and his wife Elizabeth Caroline (1815-1850), arrived VDL July 1838, and lived at Boa Vista, New Town in the early 1840s.

²⁵ Possibly Elizabeth Reeves, née Worsley (1806-1851), wife of Dr William Richardson (c.1795- 1863) and mother of Fanny Richardson (b.1837).

²⁶ James Wilson Agnew (1815-1901) and Louisa Mary, née Fraser (c.1828-1868). The two had married at Brown's River in April 1846.

²⁷ Possibly James Mercer (1812-1879), a grazier of Wanstead Park, Campbell Town.

²⁸ Peter Fraser and Mary, née Bisdee (see entry 25 Feb. 1845).

²⁹ James Ludovich Burnett (1814-1858), son of John Burnett (q.v.), arrived VDL in 1832 to join his parents. Initially appointed to the Colonial Secretary's Department but became chief clerk in the Survey Department in 1836. Took leave in Nov. 1846 on grounds of ill-health, returned to England where he married Margaret Thomas of Piccadilly on 14 Feb. 1849. The couple returned to VDL on the *Victor* (arrived 21 June 1849), along with Peter Fraser and his wife. Fraser's bride, the former Mary Bisdee and daughter of John Bisdee of Hutton Park, Bothwell was known to AB and Miss Burnett, unlike Burnett's wife, the former Margaret Thomas of Piccadilly.

M^r Dry came to town on Friday, and came in the evening with D^r Hadley; he looks so very ill, it quite grieves me to see his dear face, looking so pale. I fear I have given this last sad blow to him; & it was excessively cruel & ill-judged in me. He never once spoke to me during the evening.

This morning I found myself at the breakfast table with M^r Mercer at 11 o'clock; really it is too bad, to live in this lazy manner. I get vexed with myself, wasting so much precious time, & yet I cannot help it – every one seems to be idle here!

July 4th Wednesday. Yesterday the door bell appeared to have S^t Vitus' dance;³⁰ it was going in the most perpetual manner! First, came the Misses Burnett: then Mess^{rs} Dry & Clark;³¹ next D^r Hadley – then William & Captain Pratt – then again the Misses Burnett – Lady Denison, M^{rs} Stanley – M^r & M^{rs} J. Burnett. After all had gone on their several missions, I put on my shawl, notwithstanding my terrible cold, and went to M^{rs} E. Butler's, and sat some time with her; she appears in excellent spirits, altho' poor thing, she suffers sadly from chronic liver complaint = Little Sarah looks very delicate. ...

William dined at the Mess yesterday, so I had the evening to myself & work. "Dombey & Son"³² were honored by my notice during a portion of the evening. I do'nt really know when I've felt so happy at being alone, as last night! I was so fagged with callers & cold, that I could have cried with it, if I had not had other things to do.

This morning William gave me 4 letters that have been here some time; one was from Miss Brown,³³ another from my dearest Marion,³⁴ a third from M^r Baxter, and a fourth from M^{rs} Rutledge.³⁵ The third is rather too good, too racy, to be put on a footing with other

³⁰ Neurological disorder, sometimes called Sydenham's chorea, characterised by irregular and involuntary movements of muscle groups in the face, hands and feet, which usually occurs in children and is associated with infectious diseases such as rheumatic fever.

³¹ Andrew Clarke (q.v.) returned from NZ in June 1849 to relieve Captain Charles Denison as aide-de-camp to Sir William Denison.

³² Charles Dickens, *Dealings with the Firm of Dombey and Son, Wholesale, Retail and for Exportation* (London: Bradbury and Evans, 1848). This work was published in serial form between Oct. 1846 and Apr. 1848.

³³ Elizabeth Browne, sister of Thomas Browne (q.v.).

³⁴ Marion McLeod (q.v.).

³⁵ Eliza, née Kirk, wife of Port Fairy businessman William Rutledge (1806-1876), whom she married in 1840, friend of AB's with whom AB often stayed when visiting Belfast and whom she considered "so

correspondents' – it contains amongst other things of the same stamp, these words: "I think you are carrying your independance to[o] far rather, if illness detains you, you might write and say so; and I think I should be much to blame were I to leave you any longer with your Brother, of whom the whole world is talking;³⁶ hoping you are quite recovered, I remain etc – P.S. "Everything is going to the devel; bring the children with you." – he might have added to the — ...

I've written to M^r Flower³⁷ & enclosed his book; I am now sitting writing this opposite to Richard Dry; he is at present staying with us. Poor fellow! he appears worried beyond measure with his affairs: would to Heaven, I could share his miseries, or render them less!

On Friday we have an invite to M^{rs} Brock's to a Dance; Tomorrow morning, William goes to Richmond to hunt, and 5 of the hunt dine with us on their return.

I wrote to M^{rs} Chiene yesterday, & William put it into the post, and forgot to pay the inland postage: this morning the postman came for the money, and when I expressed my astonishment at his knowing who wrote it, he said very quaintly "Oh! they know your writing so well Ma'am, at the Post Office"! My hand will yet bring me into some serious scrape. ...
July [7th] Saturday Night. All the house is at rest, excepting my own troubled self; – and when, shall I ever be? However, I'll pass on to the affairs of every day life. ...

Friday evening. Miss Buckland & M^r Dry accompanied us in a Cab to M^{rs} Brock's, where I really passed a pleasant evening. I had plenty of partners; and Mess^{rs} Locknar & Johnson³⁸ are both such nice ones, really as good as our Port Fairy friends.

M^r Dry went with us, as I before said; and I had no idea that he had ever intended otherwise. M^{rs} Barrow not being there, his attention was devoted principally to M^{rs} H. Kay³⁹ – who is pretty, but not ladylike; every now & then she is quite brusque in her manner – very

amiable and kind" (30 April 1848). AB also writes that "she always looks like a little angel – and really is so in point of temper" (12 May 1845).

³⁶ A reference to William's assault of Mary Ann Northmore, the details of which had been recently publicised in newspaper reports of the libel action William had brought against Charles Best the proprietor of the *Courier*.

³⁷ Horace Flower (1818-1899), businessman, arrived NSW in 1838, wool-buyer and exporter in Portland, and a partner in the Port Fairy merchant and trading business William Rutledge & Co. after 1849.

³⁸ Augustus Meyer Lochnar (b. 1827), Royal Engineer Corps and Lieutenant Johnson of the 99th Foot.

³⁹ Maria, née Meredith (b.1824), wife of Joseph Henry Kay R.N. Maria married Kay 6 Nov. 1845. Kay was the nephew of Sir John Franklin and given charge of the Ross Observatory following the departure of James Ross and Crozier (Woodward 228).

Colonial! She was dressed very nicely – and during the after part of the evening, M^r Dry and she stood in a corner apart from the rest, and were evidently taken up with themselves. I heard some gentleman in the doorway say “Oh! they would stay talking till tomorrow; she is in heart a flirt, e but is kept in check by her husband”! I pretended not to hear, but took care to do something that broke up the conversation; neither of them know what took the Spouse so quickly! – I can do spiteful things sometimes; and if M^r Dry were not going away so soon, I would show him so too! [...]

July 15th Sunday. This morning I went to church; it rained a little as we returned home. In the afternoon, I had a visit from Miss Burnett, and as mist came down that prevented my taking the children to church, we walked up to see M^{rs} E. Butler, and sat there for fully an hour. She was telling us of a poor woman, who, during her accouchement met with a sad catastrophe – The poor creature has suffered agonies ever since – (now five days) and M^r Bedford has sat up with her night after night. I told M^{rs} Bedford when all had gone out of the room, that I would gladly sit up with her tonight – and to let me know where she lived. Just before dinner, Elizabeth, M^{rs} Butler’s housekeeper came down to say she was dead.

They seem to think so much of my offering to watch the poor soul; they little know how I’ve watched by the very outcasts of society! An unfortunate prisoner has always had more care from me than those who could afford to hire Nurses!⁴⁰

I may often have considered too bending – too charitable in my actions, by the worldly – but how grateful have the wretched individuals been, whom I tended. Ah! which of us knows at what minute we may be placed in the same position, and require the same care!

⁴⁰ There is no evidence in the journal that AB ever cared for prisoners, however at Yambuk she provided food and a degree of care for an Aboriginal woman reduced to a “dreadful object” through “disease and miserable living.” Following the woman’s death, AB writes with considerable compassion and empathy of the white man’s abuse that brought her “to that fearful state in which she suffered and eventually died!” She concludes that the woman’s death has “cost me a tear, and at this moment my eyes are full! For White, or Black – in Sickness or in health – we are sisters in God” (6 Apr. 1847; 16 May 1847). As Lucy Frost observes, this writing is a “passionate lament ... from the heart” and although the “language is derivative, melodramatic; the feelings are not” (Frost *Face* 98). Similarly, en route to Yambuk from Yesabba she demonstrates some compassion for the plight of convicts: “those who have from their most tender age, seen nothing but depravity, and consequently have fallen victim to it! Or again, those who seeing their families starving, have stolen to save them.” She remarks that she has never grown used to the sound of leg irons and that the sound “smites me as much now as it did nine years ago” (undated entry Apr.-May 1844).

Yesterday morning, there being no lessons, I went round to M^{rs} Green's about my dress; on my way thither, I called in at M^{rs} Curl's,⁴¹ as she wrote to say she was unwell. ...

Last night they had a whist party; composed of Mess^{rs} Burnett, Montgomerie, D^r Hadley & William. I went to bed at ½ past 11 = and left them with oysters & whist! [...]

July 23rd Monday. I've been for some days without my book; and I think I shall leave out several things which have occurred during the time.

On Friday it continued to rain, as it had for some days previously done, notwithstanding which, the Hunters sent their horses to the Wool-pack,⁴² at [sic] followed themselves; it was quite delightful to see so much devotion to the Chase! After "Ladies," what can be more infatuating!

William drove Miss Burnett up to New Norfolk, and they were rewarded for their courage in starting [in] such weather, by the following day being very fine.

I felt very ill the morning they started, and on Saturday I applied 23 leeches to my chest: they have weakened me a good deal, but I am so much better – and have this afternoon been for a ride on "Silver Bell"; She behaved better at mounting today, and will soon be quiet.

D^r Hadley returned from the hunt on Saturday evening, and came down to see me after dinner; Miss Buckland was here, and he escorted her home at ½ past 9. Glad as I was to see him, I felt a tinge of vexation in consequence, as the good people of this town are given to talking and think it so improper, his paying me so much attention; I do'nt know that it is actually of any use fretting about what the Monde⁴³ says; but I am vexed on William's account, as I know by sundry hints he has thrown out, that he feels it.

M^{rs} E. Bedford has been very kind, sitting with me every day; and Miss Buckland too = as to my old friend D^r MacWharrie, he has been all attention & kindness: he certainly is a rough jewel.

⁴¹ Marie Ellen, née Jillett (b. c. 1821), wife of Henry Curll, Deputy Assistant Commissary General, arrived VDL in the *Marmion* on 16 Apr. 1849 from London.

⁴² Woolpack Inn, Macquarie Plains 39 miles (62 km) north of Hobart on the northern bank of the Derwent River (West 545).

⁴³ World (French).

Tom Lyttleton has worried me a good deal, writing to William, and amongst other things saying, that a gentleman who had been to this house, asked him if I were to be married to D^r Hadley! Now really it was so malicious, so uncalled for, that I could not help writing, and telling him so; and here our correspondence ceases: he has lost me for a friend thro' it. ...

July 24th Tuesday. Miss Burnett and M^r Clarke dined with us yesterday; and the latter was in such spirits! William went into the dining room at 10 o'clock, to have leeches on, and M^r Chester Wilmot sat with him to smoke a cigar. M^r Clarke volunteered to take Miss Burnett home; and when he came back, he told me that going down the street, they came to a very uneven part, and he put his arm round her waist, to prevent her falling to the other side of the Cab, in which they were! Whereupon poor Miss Burnett screamed out "Oh! M^r Clarke, how can you"! The mischievous fellow laughed immoderately when he told me; and said that he explained to her why he did it – when she immediately said "Oh! yes, there are more very uneven places"! and came over towards him, a little. She is so queer – and good-hearted. ...

M^r Dry came by the Mail this morning; and is looking very well: he is staying with us, I believe, but have scarcely seen him. [...]

July 25th Wednesday. William did not return home until 7 o'clock this morning; so that between walking, dining at the Mess, and a few etc's, he is in pain with his ankle today. ...

I'm reading "Tom Burke", and like it, as I do all of Lever's works; he is thoroughly gentlemanly in his writing.⁴⁴

We were talking of M^{rs} C—I this evening; & mon frère⁴⁵ said, "I don't wish to see too much of her, as I think I should get fond of her, & I would not like to neglect my old friend, bless her"!

I went round to M^{rs} Buckland's for cuttings; & Mary⁴⁶ gave me some Violets.

On Tuesday Night after I left the gentlemen, I was standing by my fire, when a rap came at my door, and I said "Come in"; so in walked M^r Clarke; & he remained there, whilst I looked

⁴⁴ Charles Lever, *Tom Burke of "Ours,"* 2 vols (Dublin: William Curry, 1844).

⁴⁵ My brother (French).

⁴⁶ Not identified.

for some money in my Dressing-Case:⁴⁷ he said “Oh! how nice – So Snug! So neat! and this is where you write! Well, now, do write me a line, whenever you wish me to ride – and I’ll really come”. How shocked Miss Burnett would have been.

July 26th Thursday. After breakfast, I went round to M^{rs} Bedford’s to see Miss Mary Scott; she is looking very well, altho’ not pretty. For some time after coming home, I stood in the Dining Room with M^r Dry, but scarcely spoke a word, notwithstanding my wish to do so.

I do’nt know how it is, but I feel so thoroughly wretched now when I meet him! so different from olden Times – when I bounded to his side with such true glee & happiness!– ah! he may find many friends in name, but he will never know one more true or loving, than I have been. All is past; and I know but too well, how we both start afresh in this World.

The Misses Burnett called early, to ask me if one of them might give up her place at table to her brother, M^r John. Of course I agreed to it, and they left contented: – ...

William and M^r Dry dined with D^r Hadley at Mess, so Miss Buckland came round & sat with me. She has such a bad cold = & we amused ourselves occasionally coughing in Concert.

I paid M^{rs} Pratt a short visit this afternoon. D^r Dawson came to see me, and spoke so kindly, and like himself – that I feel inclined to accede to his, & another’s, wish tomorrow morning. It is not affectation in me, but I have such a repugnance to anything of the kind – altho’ I know that Medical Men think nothing of such things – and forget that they may have occurred! I cannot help it! – and I suppose I do want Moral Courage as a friend tells me.⁴⁸

July 28th Saturday – Yesterday morning, at 7 o’clock, the Cab came with D^r Hadley to take William to Richmond; after taking their coffee, they departed, looking very cold – but eager!

⁴⁷ Small piece of luggage, often compartmentalised and fitted with a mirror, and used for transporting toilet articles – the nineteenth-century equivalent of vanity cases, popular at one time in the twentieth century.

⁴⁸ Throughout the nineteenth century illness in women was commonly attributed to uterine malfunction and medical practitioners, particularly in the period 1830-1860, frequently suggested local examination and treatment for diagnosis and cure. Treatments varied from manual adjustment, the application of leeches to the female genitalia, local injections of substances such as water, milk or linseed tea, and in severe cases repeated cauterization, often without anaesthetic (Woods 29-31). It is possible that Dr Dawson had advised examination if not treatment. The reservations AB expresses are not unusual, as women of the time were generally reluctant to submit to physical examinations by medical practitioners. As Ann Douglas Woods puts it, “[l]adies were expected, even by their doctors to object to ‘local examination’ [and] to prefer modesty to health” (33).

I had several visitors in the way of ladies during the day: in the afternoon Annie & I went for a drive to several Shops. M^r J. and Miss Burnett dined with us, and William returned from Richmond only just in time for that meal.

Miss Buckland came in at 8 o'clock to dress my hair; and really made it look almost respectable.

M^r Dry did not go with us to M^{rs} E. Bedford's: he had a bad head-ache, and besides which, neither M^{rs} Barrow, [n]or M^{rs} Kay were to be there.

M^{rs} Bedford did the honors so well, going from one to the other in such a polite & kind way = and her good husband too, so quietly attentive. There were a good many persons there, and the ladies looked very well; Captain Mair⁴⁹ is pleased to say that they dress better here, than in Melbourne.

This remark of his, made me think of M^r Campbell⁵⁰ saying, "Ah! how I wish you would to go Melbourne, and show the ladies how to dress, how to converse; how to behave, in fact! You would have complete sway, for there is not one to even rival you in any one thing – excepting M^{rs} Wickham,⁵¹ in beauty!" How I laughed at him about this speech – which I obstinately maintained he had learned for the occasion. ...

July 30th Monday – I went to church yesterday afternoon with Miss Buckland & the children. ... This morning M^{rs} Curl paid me a visit; she is a very queer little uneducated mortal; but appears good humoured – and lonely, in consequence of having left a family, and circle of friends at home. How well do I recollect coming out here in the same way; a perfect stranger! And what kindness & affection I met with from friends here! I shall always love the country – and when I forget these friends, "may my right hand forget her cunning"!⁵² ...

William dined at M^r Roberts'; M^r Dry and I dined together; we were very mopish, and after dinner we had a long chat on his affairs. Poor fellow! He is sadly persecuted by his (or

⁴⁹ William Mair (1806-1904), born Glasgow, officer of the 99th Foot. In the 1840s he was both the Police Magistrate and Commander of the Mounted Police at Port Phillip.

⁵⁰ Possibly William Campbell, who shared the lease of Dunmore station, near Yambuk, in the 1840s.

⁵¹ Natalie Cornalie Wickham, wife of Melbourne solicitor Frances Dawe Wickham (see entry 19 Dec. 1846).

⁵² An allusion to Psalms 137:5 "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning."

others, rather,) creditors – He is most likely not going to California in the *David Malcolm*;⁵³ and all the better.

When William came home, he sat first with M^r Dry, and then with me; he said I did not tell him all my “Doings”, and told me I should do so, as I must know he would never find fault with me, and he liked to be in⁵⁴ my confidence.

July 31st Tuesday. Annie & I had the morning to ourselves, and I was busy darning socks – which I detest to see badly done: D^r Hadley came in before 1 o’clock, so I asked him to go up to William & chat with him. He, who is so thoughtful in all else, is so exceedingly annoying in this one particular = he will, altho’ so frequently urged not to come before the hour for luncheon, come before; and instead of going away again, here he remains = so that persons coming to see me, always find him here, and hence the scandal & talk about it. I sometimes become so vexed at it, that I make myself quite ill = and all the good that “quiet” would do me, is lost in this one Vexation. I have only my own room to sit in, else I certainly would go, and at all events read by myself sometime during the day. Then the people say, and he too, amongst them, “You’re never happy alone”! – I often wish so earnestly that I had a chance. ...

Wednesday 1st of July [August]: I went with Annie into Town, accompanied by M^r Dry; he left us, and we went to two or three shops. I was so tired, I could scarcely crawl home; & was obliged to lie down on my bed until after luncheon time. I had just gone down to this, when D^r Hadley came in. ...

William dined at Mess; and I had a delightful evening with Ada as my only companion; notwithstanding the pressing invites of M^{rs} Bedford, and Miss Burnett. I finished the “Old Man’s Wanderings”,⁵⁵ & returned it with a note to Miss Buckland. I may be wrong, but I imagine that the conversations respecting the peculiar style of building to be adopted for Churches, is merely

⁵³ Originally Dry was going to California with the *Stirlingshire* but this plan was never executed. Dry and his colleagues (D^r Arcy Wentworth and A.J. Marriott) were reported as leasing the 520-ton vessel *David Malcolm* for the purpose (*Courier* 4 July 1849). In a later edition of this publication Dry’s name is not associated with the *David Malcolm* (15 Aug. 1849). The vessel eventually sailed 13 Sept. 1849 and carried only three cabin passengers.

⁵⁴ Superscript in original.

⁵⁵ Charles Lyne, *An Old Man’s Wanderings or an Account of a Tour through the Manufacturing Districts* (London: Simpkin & Marshall, 1845).

an Allegory = and means that our religion should remain pure – uncontaminated; – not having Dissenters, and so forth. For to me it appears so absurd to think that pure, religious feelings may not be felt: that our Creator may not be as much praised, in one kind of building as another. Indeed I know, that there is more Worship in one of our small bush slab huts, than in a highly finished church; and perhaps too, I may as well give the reason – there are no galleries containing star-gazing crowds! [...]

August 7th Tuesday. On Sunday morning William drove me to Church, much against his will, I must allow – and therefore all the more amiable. He went with M^{rs} E. Bedford and Miss M. Scott to Brown's River the previous day. D^r Hadley & I rode out to meet them on their return, and had a nice canter. I do so like to ride alone with D^r Hadley! he is so entertaining, & kind. ...

I this morning drove up to M^{rs} Dawson's, and found herself & sister at home; I went into D^r Dawson's room, and had a long talk with him, alone; he says he wishes me to continue the medicines as of late, and thinks that altho' he cannot possibly cure my pains, he can alleviate them. For my own part, I think I'm giving unnecessary trouble = as I am unfit to live and enjoy God's blessings! Who can feel, and know, this better than I? Oh! how very ill I've been all today: – yet my bodily ailments are nothing in comparison with those of my mind! ...

William & I got letters from M^r Smith, per *Grace Darling*;⁵⁶ he likes China very well, but was anticipating very hot weather. ...

August 8th Wednesday. I'm better today; and it feels truly delightful to be free, in a manner, from pain. M^{rs} Drake went with D^r Hadley & myself for a ride in the afternoon; we were joined by M^r Fleming on our return.

William & I dined at D^r Agnew's; the rest of the party consisted of Captain & M^{rs} Booth, Mess^{rs} Smith,⁵⁷ J. Gregson,⁵⁸ and D^r MacWharrie.

⁵⁶ 199-ton brig arrived from Canton, Batavia, Adelaide and Port Phillip.

⁵⁷ Likely to be Francis Villeneuve Smith (see entry 29 Dec. 1846).

⁵⁸ John Compton Gregson (1821-1867), son of Thomas Gregson (1798-1874), was born in Hobart Town and educated in England. He was admitted to the English bar in 1845 and returned to VDL on 25 Jan. 1847.

I do like the gentleman of the house; he is so mild gentlemanly, and clever: then he is so fond of poetry too! His wife is a pretty little woman, with, I should say, “little in her”. She sang; her voice is most powerful, but devoid of sweetness. [...]

August 11th Saturday. Yesterday William drove M^r Roberts⁵⁹ in a gig to Shooters Hill – at least they started for that delightful place; it is the residence of one Josiah Spode Esqr.⁶⁰ – and this said Josiah, is the fortunate Father of two lovely daughters, named “Polly” and “Nell”.

On dit, that when visitors stay at this Château, the doors of the respective sleeping apartments are thrown open in the morning, (Reader, only then!) and every person joins in the one conversation. Madame la mère⁶¹ is distinctly & visibly embonpoint;⁶² and I was amused by hearing that one morning her sposo in coming out of his chamber (like a bridegroom, rejoicing!) left the door open, and discovered to an astonished passer-by, the stout figure of the lady, standing in her flannel waistcoat, and shoes and stockings!...

Poor little Louis was not very well; he is such a dear, good child to take medecine, or anything he is told. Just before William left, I took my pistol into his room, to show it to him; and the silly fellow pulled the trigger, and off it went in the room – filling it with smoke! As we read in accounts of accidents, etc, “No damage was committed”.

I went into M^{rs} Bedford’s to tea; and when I returned found Ann lying on the floor of my room, in a state of “insensibility”, to say the least of it; D^r Hadley, who brought me home, kindly carried her into her bed room, and left her on her bed. John, who was thoroughly asleep, had quietly retired to his couch; and I went into his room & took out the candle, without his being aware of it. Telle est la vie!⁶³ and such the fearful results of Intemperance! Yet for all this, I cannot condemn my unfortunate fellow-creatures, for which of us is exempt from Sin, altho’ of

⁵⁹ John Roberts, husband of Mary Anne Roberts (q.v.).

⁶⁰ Josiah Spode (1790-1858), grandson of Josiah Spode, founder of the famous Staffordshire pottery, arrived VDL 1821, landowner and public servant. Muster Master and Assistant Police Magistrate 1827-1831, Principal Superintendant of Convicts 1831-1839, Chief Police Magistrate and member of the Legislative Council 1839-41. Married Maria Middlemore 1826 and lived at both Stoke Cottage in New Town and Shooter’s Hill in the Derwent Valley.

⁶¹ The mother (French).

⁶² Plump (*OED*) (French phrase = *en bon point* = in good condition).

⁶³ Such is life! (French).

different kinds. – I know my besetting sin – and oh! if I could but correct it! but I cannot as yet. How really fond I could be of being, and doing, good! I do most positively believe that I have only this one Vice – & soon it might be corrected – Hélas, for human nature! “the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak”. –

It must be my complaint which makes me feel at times so regularly desponding, and I would then give the Universe to be at rest – to have that Peace, which the World cannot give.

But to return to every day matters. This morning I had just risen, when John came to me & said that Martin was galloping Zoë about the streets, and that he was in a sad state of intoxication. I wrote up immediately to my kind friend D^r Hadley, and he sent down Harefield,⁶⁴ that invaluable man, who has been attending to the Mare – and Martin, whom a Constable has taken off to the Watch house, is out of my sight for a time, at least. I almost hate the creature, for treating my poor horse so ill!

D^r Hadley came down just after breakfast, and whilst he was here, D^r Dawson came to see me; the latter is going across the country this afternoon, and amused me very much by saying how miserable he was alone! that after 10 o'clock, he did not know what to do with himself = and he was sure the servants wished him anywhere but at home, for he found himself parading about the house at 6 o'clock in the morning! So much for Bachelor-husbands! they cannot do at all without their help-metes.

I really have written considerably this morning, so now to work & reading.

August 12th Sunday. Last evening D^r Hadley passed here, but left at a very reasonable hour. My servants, John & Ann, were both perfectly stupified with drink, and I was obliged at last to threaten to tell the latter's Father: this sobered her at once.

We none of us went to Church, not even the soldiers those regular attendants; (par nécessité)⁶⁵ it rained so much, and looked so extremely dull & wet.

William returned from New Norfolk about luncheon time, and after sitting a short time, walked up to M^{rs} Roberts'. M^r Roberts returned last night, and brought Peter; when he went home,

⁶⁴ Personal servant of Henry Hadley.

⁶⁵ By/of necessity (French).

he found his wife had not been to bed for the two nights he was away. How exceedingly absurd! because it is not anxiety or love that makes her act thus. She said to W.C. once, “Oh! John cannot live above two years; so do’nt marry until then”!

D^r Hadley dined with us. I wrote to M^{rs} Jacquier,⁶⁶ and Louis did so too, he really did it very well, considering it was his first attempt. How pleased she will be with it! I wrote to Harriet likewise, but only in part, so I must finish it tomorrow, as the *Marmion* is said to be sailing then for London.⁶⁷

13th August Monday – This morning Captⁿ Stanley died; he has only been ill during the week.⁶⁸ It is sad indeed when a person is taken off in this sudden way; in the prime of life! – It makes us truly to know that “in the midst of life, we are in Death”!⁶⁹ His wife will feel his loss much, as they were very attached even⁷⁰ from children.

M^{rs} Curl sat with me some time this morning, & remained to luncheon, she is a strange little body, and amuses me considerably with her little grumbling ways: I do’nt think tho’, for all that, that she is bad tempered. The Misses Burnett too, paid me a morning call, and were profuse in their thanks for the Chinese fan and cuffs. Maryann was going to Richmond, but finds that M^r Schaw forgot to send her letter, stating she would be there. A pleasant man to send a message by.

Dear me! I shall be obliged to put off the (account of) [the] Duel; and perhaps the parties engaged therein would like to have done the same! My visit to the St Mary’s Hospital likewise must be left for another Journal. I wonder where my next will be finished? whether at all? Because if I were living with any person to whom I could confide all my petites secrets, régresses etc – I should never trouble a book with lines!

⁶⁶ Mother of William’s late wife Bessie and grandmother of Louis and Annie.

⁶⁷ The mail for the *Marmion* closed at noon on the 15 Aug. but the vessel did not sail until 19 Aug.

⁶⁸ Charles Stanley died from complications of gastroenteritis from which he had suffered for some days but which became acute on the Friday before his death. He was buried with military honours on Saturday 15 August after a service at St George’s Church. AB’s brother was among the pall-bearers. As a mark of respect for Stanley, on the day he died flags were flown at half-mast, and the regular Thursday military concert was cancelled in the week following his death.

⁶⁹ From the *Book of Common Prayer*, “The Order for the Burial of the Dead,” First Anthem: “In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek succour but of thee.”

⁷⁰ Superscript in original.

My whims, my queer humours – are they not written in this work of mine?⁷¹

Well! the Duel was between Mess^{rs} M^cDowell & F. Smith – they fired twice; when the challenger (M^r S.) considered that he had enough, and went off the field, retaining the title of “Liar” which his antagonist had given him. So much for men making fools of themselves; and Judges allowing such disgraceful language in Court!⁷² ...

August [16th] Thursday. Yesterday morning M^r Dry drove the children and myself as far as the Union;⁷³ I then took the reins, and went as far as the turnpike⁷⁴ with them. Poor little things! they have the hooping cough,⁷⁵ and so I take them for a drive every morning.

In the afternoon I rode Zoë, accompanied by Captain Main & D^r Hadley; She carried me very nicely, and I expect rather fast – as we were so soon home.

M^r & M^{rs} J. Burnett, D^r & M^{rs} Agnew, M^r Dry and Captⁿ Macmichael⁷⁶ dined with us; and some gentlemen came in after – M^r & M^{rs} Curll too. Miss Burnett would not come, owing to her quarrel with William; so Mary Ann came alone. ...

August 20th Monday. Some days have elapsed, & I have not written in my book; it's very neglectful. I never take an interest in anything New, not even a new dress! This latter by the bye, is to me an immense nuisance! I am quite of Dourin Sampson's⁷⁷ opinion in this, and would actually put on anything that was placed for me to wear, rather than have the trouble of choosing,

⁷¹ Final entry of Notebook 11 (MS Q181 Item 11).

⁷² First entry of Notebook 12 (MS Q182 Item 1). The duel was fought at Cornelian Bay, on Friday 10 Aug. at 4 p.m. between Edward Macdowell, Commissioner of the Insolvent Estates Court since Mar. 1845 (see entry 24 Jan. 1834), and barrister Francis Smith (see entry 29 Dec. 1846) over a disagreement that had arisen in the Supreme Court on Tuesday 7 Aug. Two shots were fired but no one was injured; both parties “walked off the field together, having done nothing more than wasted a little powder and shot” (CT 14 Aug. 1849).

⁷³ The Union Club Hotel in Murray St. or the Union Hotel, Campbell St.

⁷⁴ Toll gate, perhaps located on the New Town Road.

⁷⁵ Whooping cough (pertussis), a distressing contagious disease usually affecting children, and characterised by short, violent and convulsive coughs. The CT 25 Aug. 1849 records the death of a child in Hobart from “hooping cough” on the “19th instant” and in its edition of 15 Jan. 1850 observes that “hooping cough was very prevalent” in 1849.

⁷⁶ Macmichael, commander of the *Montauk*, returned to VDL 12 Aug. Since its departure eleven months ago, the vessel had “visited Sydney, China, New York and returned to Hobart Town.” The vessel brought English news to the 21 Apr., New York news to 12 May, Canada to 4 May and California to 6 Mar. (CT 14 Aug. 1849).

⁷⁷ Not identified, possibly an allusion to a character in a novel.

get it made, etc. It is [not] for want of Vanity = because sometimes I know I look well; and am quite pleased with doing so – but it is a carelessness, as to actual dress.

I've read "Hector O'Hallaran";⁷⁸ sent home "Lorenzo de Medici", which is extremely well written by one William Roscoe;⁷⁹ and am now deep in the Memoirs of Madame du Barri.⁸⁰ I had no idea from reading only Joseph Balsamo,⁸¹ how exceedingly common as well as pretty, she was. Why she appears to have given herself to anybody who requested or could pay her. I have christened M^{rs} Barrow, by Madame's name!

On Sunday M^r Clarke came to see me; the second time only since Captain Stanley's death. Poor M^{rs} Stanley! how sincerely I pity her! left alone in a World where she had so much real happiness; that is to say, they were so happy in themselves. ...

This morning I went with M^{rs} Bedford down to Robertson's to purchase a dress. After my dinner, D^r Hadley read to me, and I finished M^{rs} Lyttleton's stool, at last. I had a letter from her yesterday, in which she tells me that the children have the whooping cough badly. ...

I have this evening copied a song written to M^r J. Smith⁸² – and read; besides singing for some time. I'm always happy when alone – Yes! fond as I may appear of many persons to group around me – still my heart is lonely now – and ever will be!

Oh! John went to wait at M^r Morrison's⁸³ this evening, and returned exactly at 10, in a state of inebriety! Some man, who came to see him home, rang at the bell, and I answered it, and asked "who was there"? "Your butler, Ma'am" – said a voice. "Walk in"; said I. Nobody in the form of a Butler appearing, I took the liberty of again asking where was the stray sheep? He's gone to the back gate Ma'am", so away I went, to open the back door. – I had scarcely done this, when back to the other door both men came; in walked John, and turning round to the friend who

⁷⁸ W.H. Maxwell, *The Fortunes of Hector O'Halloran and His Man, Mark Antony O'Toole* (London: Thomas Tegg, 1845).

⁷⁹ William Roscoe, *The Life of Lorenzo de Medici called The Magnificent*, 2 vols (London: Strahan, 1796).

⁸⁰ Étienne Lamonthe-Langton, *Memoirs of Madame du Barri*, (London: Whittaker, Treacher and Arnot, 1830-1831).

⁸¹ Alexandre Dumas, *Memoirs of a Physician. Part I. Joseph Balsamo*, 2 vols (London: Simms and McIntyre, 1847).

⁸² Not identified.

⁸³ Possibly the town house of successful merchant and landowner Askin Morrison (1800-1876), born County Tyrone, Ireland, arrived VDL 1829. Morrison, a bachelor, owned the beautiful property Runnymede, 20 miles (32 km) east of Hobart, but lived sometimes in his town house near the New Wharf.

had just brought him home, said “Who are you? and what do you want? If it is money, I have none for you”! “I wants no money”, rejoined the quondam associate, “I only called to bring you home”. “Oh! very well, then I’m all safe; so Good Night” – said John.

After shutting the door, he began telling me that he had been out to M^r Morrison’s, and had had some small beer – or something else in a small way – I finished all, by bursting out into a laugh – and he then said, “Oh! I see you know all about it Ma’am” –

August 2[7]th – Monday. I positively cannot find time, (without denying myself to callers) to write in this book every day. I get up early, and I go to bed late – and yet I cannot get half time enough for what I have to do.

The children have both the hooping cough, and are too poorly to go down stairs, excepting when they go for a drive in the morning. ...

After going for a ride round the Domain today, accompanied by M^{rs} Drake and D^r Hadley, I went to St Mary’ Hospital, and took a hot bath. It was so delightful, I could have remained there much longer, had it not been that I began to feel faint. There was a young man in the next Bath, and he was busy using a — which made such a noise, I could scarcely prevent laughing. There is no ceiling to the room, and I fancied to myself whilst undressed, how comical a head over the top of the wall would look!

M^r Dry, who is still with us, does not intend now going to California; he is grievously disappointed with the cause, I believe, and had reckoned most confidently on it. Poor fellow! he has indeed much to contend with; and how very sincerely I feel for him. He tells me much more of his affairs now, than he used; and behaves to me in the most friendly manner. I at times surprise him, looking so intently on my face; but I never seem to notice it. How dearly I love him! he is one in a thousand.

On dit, there is likely to be an elopement between Miss Power⁸⁴ & M^r Berrison;⁸⁵ the young lady strongly recommends it, and says that when they have been away a few days, her Papa

⁸⁴ Louisa Charlotte, daughter of Robert Power, Surveyor-General of VDL (1841-1851), arrived in VDL with her parents, one of her three sisters and two brothers.

⁸⁵ Robert William Benison, Esq, 99th Regiment.

will be glad to forgive them, and allow her £100 a year! Rather dear at that, I should say, if one is to believe the rest of the scandal of her.

William heard from D^r Robertson⁸⁶ today; his letter reminds me of himself – how I dislike him! Harriet too, has favored William with a long letter! Dear old soul! She does write so queerly! and actually in condoling with him for Bessie's death, speaks of his forming another alliance. Oh! how people look upon Marriage as a mere matter of convenience! And I shall never be able to prove to any one, how differently I think of it. – ...

August [28th] Tuesday. We have had a nice ride today to Ridsden: M^{rs} E. Bedford, D^r Hadley & M^r Lochnar⁸⁷ with me. It has been such a lovely day; and in consequence I allowed the children to run about the garden, instead of driving them. I went with William to the Hospital, and sat there with poor M^{rs} Richardson for some time. She is in very great pain, poor thing! and appeared so glad to see me; I mended her night gown for her whilst sitting with her. On a former occasion when I visited her, she told me of the way in which she became so much injured during her confinement – said it was owing to a woman who attended her; and ended by telling me that D^r Officer⁸⁸ had been with her during eight previous accouchements; and that it was ill luck made her employ a woman this time; = but, she would have D^r Officer to attend her next time! I amused the women in the Ward by exclaiming, "Oh! surely you'll have no more"! Really such persons can have little or no intense pain or pleasure; for this unfortunate[,] one would suppose[,] had[,] had quite enough agony with this infant, to prevent her ever looking at a man again. —

August 29th Wednesday. ... Today I did not go out, it was a strange day, neither raining [n]or shining. In the morning Miss Buckland brought her work and sat with me – D^r Hadley came in to luncheon: William next sat a[nd] read to me; then came M^r Dry, M^r Sharland & Mary Ann Burnett.

⁸⁶ John Robertson (see entry 6 Dec. 1844).

⁸⁷ Presumably Augustus Meyer Lochner (b. 1827), Royal Engineer and aide-de-camp to William Denison. He married Rosa Kemp (b. 1830) in 1853.

⁸⁸ Robert Officer (1800-1879), born Dundee, Scotland, arrived VDL 1822, surgeon to the military garrison and in charge of the New Norfolk Hospital from 1824, 1838-1841 Inspector of Colonial and Convict Medical Department. Throughout the 1840s he was health officer in Hobart Town, presumably with right of private practice as his public appointment had a salary of just £150.

M^{rs} Bedford paid me a visit too; and brought in her work after dinner. Mess^{rs} Sharland & Dry dined with us.

There is some strange report going abroad relative to M^{rs} M—e⁸⁹ at Mona Vale, 'tis affirmed that a prisoner servant was found in her room; and moreover, that he is only one of three, who enjoy her intimate acquaintance. Can this be possible? How very wretched for Robert Kermode, if so! ...

I am much entertained with Madame du Barri's Memoirs; she writes very nicely, and in a most agreeable style. [...]

September 2nd Sunday – The last three days have been so miserably wet, that I've not been outside the door, with the exception of walking to M^{rs} Burnett's on Friday afternoon; Miss Grey⁹⁰ is staying with them, and I am entertained by a small flirtation which is being carried on between my brother & this young lady. She is very pretty, and a regular Coquette: evidently only skin deep, for her manner is trifling & foolish. But the beauty is the thing for William! it has been, and will continue, his bane thro' life. Strange with so fine a sense of the ludicrous, and stupid – that he should delight so much in external attractions. C'est différent⁹¹ tho' with M^{rs} R—. I cannot find out anything external there! ...

M^{rs} E. Bedford came to see me yesterday: I like her better than anybody here. D^r Hadley dined with us: I offended him in the afternoon, by my rudeness = but he is so very forgiving – so amiable, that he deserves a life of happiness, which I'm afraid at present, is not his.

Miss Buckland brought me some ribbon she had purchased for me: 'tis very pretty. I intend getting my clothes ready for the Voyage. William talks of going home in January. Oh! how I shall regret this Country, and some of my friends here. ...

September 3rd Monday. ... I received a letter from dear Harriet, enclosing notes from Annie and Woodward; The former gave me grief for a few minutes about money matters = but it was not, to do myself justice, it was not the actual loss of the money that grieved me! It was a feeling that

⁸⁹ Not identified.

⁹⁰ Fanny A.F. Grey of Kettleton Abbey.

⁹¹ It is different (French).

came to make me think how strange it appeared in a sister to try and better herself in any way at the expense of another! Oh! my feelings, my ideas, are I fear very primitive & rustic! I so thoroughly try in every way to carry out the Golden Rule of “Do unto others that which we would wish them to do unto us”. – Charity – in every sense, I love –

September 7th Friday. Nothing of very considerable import has taken place since I wrote = I’ve had several agreeable rides on Zoë, who is improving much in her paces. ...

Last evening I went into M^{rs} E. Bedford’s; William dined there, and some other gentlemen. The creature has dined out every day this week, and commences again on Monday. I had an invitation to go on board the *Montauk* yesterday but preferred the Band. ...

During the week a sad report prevails about Miss P—r; they say she is enceinte,⁹² and that in consequence, her Parents have given consent to her marriage with M^r Berrison of the 99th. A marriage of this description, with such persons, is unlikely to prove a happy one.⁹³

September 9th Sunday. ... I took my work in, and sat with M^{rs} E. Bedford. D^r & M^{rs} Dawson have returned, and brought Miss Walker⁹⁴ with them; they say poor little Annie Davies is so extremely ill; and D^r Dawson has told M^r Davies that the only chance of saving her life, is to send her to George Town. Poor child! she has had typhus fever,⁹⁵ as well as hooping cough.

Yesterday I walked down to M^{rs} Agnew’s, & called to ask after M^{rs} Richardson; I then went on to Robin Hood’s,⁹⁶ Walch’s,⁹⁷ Jones’⁹⁸ & Webb’s. My next step was into a Cab; & home. ...

I’ve not been to church today, as my cough is very troublesome. Several persons called in the afternoon. & amongst others, M^r Roberts, who sat for some time with us; He certainly is, far

⁹² Pregnant (French).

⁹³ The *Courier* of 29 Sept. 1849 records the marriage “[a]t St. George’s Church, on Saturday, the 22nd Instant [of] Robert William Benison Esq., 99th Regiment to Louisa Charlotte, daughter of Robert Power, Surveyor-General of Van Diemen’s Land.”

⁹⁴ Presumably one of the daughters of Thomas Walker (1791-1861) of Rhodes, Longford.

⁹⁵ Infectious disease caused by the bacteria rickettsiae and usually transmitted by lice or fleas, sometimes epidemic, characterised by fever, purple rash and delirium, not always fatal.

⁹⁶ Robin Vaughan Hood, printer, framer and engraver, occupied premises in Liverpool St described as “handsome and tasteful,” and incorporating a “splendid plate-glass front” which “puts the spectator in mind of Ludgate Hill or Bond Street” (*CT* 2 Oct. 1846).

⁹⁷ J.W.H. Walch, Book and Stationery Warehouse Wellington Bridge, corner of Liverpool and Elizabeth Streets, Hobart Town, established 1846 and operating as a family business until 2003.

⁹⁸ Charles Jones, watchmaker, silversmith and jeweller also in Liverpool St.

from a “polished” man; nevertheless, he appears to be good natured enough, and is generous to a fault with regard to his wife. ’Twould be a singular thing indeed, if she were not handsomely dressed, for she is clothed by two husbands. Now, when I come to look at the above, it appears scandalous! but it is true. ...

I went in to see M^{rs} E. Bedford, whom I found sitting in her bed room with poor little Sidney;⁹⁹ She was crying, and appeared in very melancholy mood. I asked her to come in during the evening, but she was not in sufficiently merry humour.

’Tis sometimes a matter of enquiry to me, whether, if I had been happily married, I should have been a better woman than I am! Whether my temper, so unusually passionate, would have softened down to the médiocre thing it now is = and I generally answer myself in the same way – and wish, oh! how very sincerely, I could be somewhere by myself, for as I get older, I verily believe I get worse!

September 10th Monday. I was sitting in the Dining Room this morning, between 9, and 10 o’clock, waiting as usual for my guest’s appearance at the breakfast table; when William returned home in a Cab, and so ill, as to be obliged to go to bed. I do’nt know how disgusted I feel at seeing anybody I love, look so very horribly dissipated as he did. He went last night as I said, to look for Tom, and found him, he says at the “Ship” – M^r Montgomerie says the “Freemason’s” – I say nothing, but think I know better than either of these tales! However, he passed his night out; and is now in bed. ...

September 11th Tuesday. William kept his bed all day, and in the evening dined with M^r Fleming. M^r Dry dined out and I was alone all the evening, as I did not feel well enough to go to M^{rs} E. Bedford’s who kindly asked me to do so. [...]

September 17th Monday. Bessie has been dead twelve months, today; I was at the Davies’ when recalled here, in consequence of her death: – and tomorrow, (that day 12 months) is the day I came over. Strange to say, that I think it more than likely that tomorrow I shall go over to

⁹⁹ Three-year old Sydney Bedford, third son of Edward and Mary Bedford.

Longford, for I hear that dear little Annie is dead; I know so well, how very much afflicted they will all be, and I know they will like to see me.

Yesterday I did not go to church, as I was not in a fit state to do so; nobody should go with a cough.

After church I had visitors the whole day; M^r Clarke took D^r Hadley away with him to make some calls, and they returned & sat some little time. They dined here; M^r Dry, M^r Roberts & William, made up our number. The two latter gentlemen came in just before dinner; looking very unshaved & dingy! Of course they had had numberless difficulties, almost dangers, to contend with – and actually 9 miles to walk! ...

It was evident by what William said, that he expected M^{rs} Roberts to be here; but it was better that she was not, for several reasons – amongst others, John was quite “fou”¹⁰⁰ again, & did not give us dinner until nearly 8 o’clock. ...

September 19th Wednesday. On Monday ... I received a letter from M^r Davies, announcing dear little Annie’s death; he writes in the resigned way I should have expected – but I know how grievously both he & poor Maria will feel the blow!¹⁰¹ And M^{rs} Lyttleton too; kind soul that she is; nursing them all – and feeling as she must, so truly wretched! – I answered his note, and said I should be over on Friday morning at Perth; I will stay with them for a week.

Last night William & M^r Dry dined at Mess; & the former of these gentry is just returned home it being 9 o’clock – so much for the Faith of Man!! – ...

M^{rs} Curl pays me a visit every day, as she says it comes naturally. Today she & her spouse dine with us, as they are removing into another house, & cannot find time to have dinner cooked at home. She amuses me much, telling me how she passes her evenings. She sits on M^r Curl’s knee, whilst he reads; and she then falls asleep – Sometimes she varies her entertainment, and jumps on his back, & makes him carry her about. She is very harmless in her entertainments certainly; so, may they last!

¹⁰⁰ Mad (French).

¹⁰¹ The *Courier* of 19 Sep. 1849 records the death “[a]t Longford, on Sunday, the 16th instant, [of] Annie, eldest daughter of Rev. R.R. Davies, aged five years and nine months.”

October [5th] Friday – I’ve been ill for the past fortnight – and still feel so weak and stupid, that I think my Journal would stand but a poor chance of ever being again written in – only for one thing; this is nothing more or less, than to have the pleasure of saying how grateful I feel to my kind, dear friend D^r Hadley for his unceasing & unremitting care & attention to me during my sickness! He is gentle as a woman; with none of her (too often) trying talkativeness! He is such a delightful companion; so amiable, so amusing! In fact, I should never tire of sounding his praise; and I never shall forget his goodness to me.

D^{rs} Dawson & MacWharrie were very kind too; and altogether, they have made me *passablement bien*.¹⁰²

October 1[7]th Wednesday. It is a long time since I wrote in this book; and until today, I’ve felt perfectly unable to do so; – indeed now, that the last night’s gaiety is past, I begin to feel the same Ennui stealing over me, that I have so long experienced. Oh! there is no earthly Being that I could tell all, every anguish I have suffered lately, both mentally and bodily; indeed so much have I felt – and so keenly, – I think sometimes my mind will become deranged.

Mess^{rs} Baxter & Flower have written to me; the former, as usual, finding fault with me – and saying he will go to England, and sell Yambuck. How I regret all my pets, my garden, my everything – my Home! Oh! it is enough to make one wish for a bath in the River Lethe!¹⁰³ ...

The Governor & Lady Denison are over on the Launceston side of the Island,¹⁰⁴ and M^r Clarke is with them: and the mention of this person’s name, reminds me of a strange circumstance which occurred the other day. M^{rs} E. B—d¹⁰⁵ came in to sit with me, & began to talk of M^r C—e;¹⁰⁶ she said she always liked him, and was vexed to find he did not return the sentiment: “but how can he;” said she, “when he is so very fond of you? He has eyes for no one else, when

¹⁰² Passably well (French).

¹⁰³ In Greek mythology, the river Lethe (in Hades) bestowed forgetfulness of the past on those who drank from its waters.

¹⁰⁴ William Denison left Hobart Town on 1 Oct. for Bothwell where he enjoyed a few days hunting “with Mr Sharland’s hounds” before he was joined by his wife and two eldest children. They attended the Midland Agricultural Exhibition on 10 Oct. while they were the guests of William Kermode of Mona Vale. They left his residence on Thursday 11 Oct. and passed the weekend at Thomas Walker’s property Rhodes, and the Rev. Thomas Reibey’s home at Entally. They proceeded to Launceston on Monday 15 Oct., where they gave a ball on Thursday 18 Oct. at the Cornwall Assembly Rooms (*Courier* 9 Oct. 1849).

¹⁰⁵ Mrs E. Bedford.

¹⁰⁶ Andrew Clarke.

you are in the Room”! It was to me the most extraordinary charge; for I never once even fancied for an instant, that this brotherly creature could have any other liking for me! And I have often noticed to myself his petting little ways towards me – and said “He is quite securely in love with some one, or he would never do this to me”! Vainly did I argue with M^{rs} B—d; she said she could not be mistaken; and ended by giving me the credit of not returning the gentleman’s love! “He loves Hadden’s sister, Not M^{rs} Baxter”; I said. No! it must be me; as everybody must love me!! I felt the compliment & bowed. ...

The children have been staying a week with M^{rs} Twiss;¹⁰⁷ and really look very well.

Last night we went to a delightful Dance at the Barracks: and altho’ far from well, I really passed a pleasant night. The Rooms were beautifully lighted: the Band played delightfully; in fact it was quite as “Madame” said, “Toute a fait charmante”!¹⁰⁸ All the ladies looked very nicely, excepting Miss R. Kemp – who this time took rather too great a liberty with her face; and overdid the affair! Marianne Burnett made a rush to go to the Party, and succeeded; Her Papa expressly forbid her going; the selfish old man! We actually remained until after 3 o’clock; and it was Sunrise before I got into bed.

In the afternoon, I received a great shock. Upon seeing two men wrestling, and fancying the one, an old man, was getting the worst of it, I sent over James to try and stop the fight; & when he returned, he told me that the younger man had just murdered old Sockett!¹⁰⁹ I thereupon fell down; and not having anybody with me who could manage me, I’ve knocked my head sadly on the floor.

¹⁰⁷ Captain John Twiss, a member of the Royal Engineer Corps, and his wife arrived in the colony at the same time as William in Sept. 1844 on the *Pestonjee Bomanjee*. He served in Launceston after his arrival until 1848 when he was appointed commanding officer of the Royal Engineers in VDL following the departure of Lt-Col. Victor.

¹⁰⁸ Quite charming (French = *toute à fait charmant*).

¹⁰⁹ Thomas Sockett, who “earned a living by washing,” was murdered in his cottage “nearly opposite the residence of Captain Hadden” by James McKeckney who was apprehended by Sockett’s neighbour, a carpenter named, Millington (*Courier* 17 Oct. 1849).

This morning the Coroner summoned me to attend and give evidence relative to the Murder; but I asked D^r MacWharrie for a medical certificate to prevent my going, which he immediately gave.¹¹⁰ [...]

October 29th Monday. On Saturday I was quite ill; and obliged to take a considerable quantity of Opium, and apply leeches to my stomach twice: D^r Dawson, who came to see me, says that I must apply them about every three weeks, whether in pain or not. I never scarcely remember to have passed so very truly lonely a day of pain as this; I do'nt much mind aches; but I was left alone = even my usually kind friend D^r Hadley did not stay an hour & ½ the whole day with me. He asked me why I had not sent for him in the morning, when I was so ill? But I rejoiced afterwards to think I had not; as he could not make up his mind to stay any time when he did know I was so ill.

...

Miss Buckland came in for a short time; and Miss Burnett dined here. John was quite unfit to attend to anything; & we had to have Ann in to wait. I must say tho' that she was very little better; and very dose-y.

The *Swift*, Man-of-War, is in harbour; she has on board Smith O'Brien, & two other rebels from Ireland.¹¹¹ At some future day I must remark a few little incidents which took place at M^{rs} Harold's¹¹² Soirée in Launceston last week; I am too tired to write now. ...

October 31st Wednesday: Yesterday D^r Hadley kindly lent me Bessie to ride, as Zoë is still lame; and he accompanied Louis and I for a ride. We went to enquire after Maria; and then followed the road to the Museum.¹¹³ ...

¹¹⁰ The inquest into "circumstances attending the Davey St. murder commenced on Thursday at Mr Priest's tavern" (*Courier* 20 Oct. 1849). Coroner, A.B. Jones's verdict was "wilful murder" and the defendant was "committed to gaol under coroner's warrant" (*Courier* 24 Oct. 1849). McKeckney was sentenced to be publicly executed, and his body to be delivered to the surgeons for anatomisation (*CT* 11 Dec. 1849).

¹¹¹ The *Swift*, 360 tons, six guns, sailed from Plymouth on 4 July under the command of Capt. W.C. Oldham. The *Swift* carried Smith O'Brien (1803-1864), gentleman; T.M. Meagher, law student; Patrick O'Donoghue, conveyancer and Terence McManus, merchant. The four were transported on charges of treason after *habeus corpus* was suspended in Ireland in July 1848. The prisoners were deemed to be of "an educated and superior class." British Home Secretary, Sir George Grey (1799-1882) had instructed Denison that the four were to be given tickets-of-leave on arrival. O'Brien refused and was imprisoned at Darlington probation station on Maria Island (Robson 478).

¹¹² Not identified.

¹¹³ "Acanthe," the small temple-like museum built by Jane Franklin in 1842-1843 on 400 acres (162 hec.) of land she had purchased in Lenah Valley, a short distance from Hobart Town, intended as a centre for

November 2nd Friday. Yesterday I drove M^{rs} Curll & the children to the Government Gardens, where the Band played;¹¹⁴ I sent back the carriage, and William brought the Misses Sorell to hear it. There were a great many persons there, and the gardens look so prettily. ...

Today I drove out to Boa Vista, and sat with M^{rs} Lyttleton and Maria for some time. When I say “I drove”; it is incorrect; M^r Dry, who had just arrived, did so for me; and after opening the gate, walked home! He is looking very brown, but well; and is come to stay with William.

M^{rs} Lyttleton is coming to stay with me for a day or two, and bring Emma; she comes on Monday. William has taken a violent liking for the Misses Sorell, and is constantly there. He is a strange fickle creature. ...

We went for a ride in the afternoon; and I’m quite tired tonight. M^r Sharland dined with us = and the three gentlemen sat in the dining room until ½ past 9 – and past 10! So much for civilization!! I did not mind, indeed I rather was glad, as D^r Hadley was with me, & I like his company so much. He has had his portrait daguerreotyped = & I think the one very good. ...

November 3rd Saturday – ... I went for a ride with D^r Hadley; but we had to come home quickly, as it rained heavily; we went up the “Stony Steps” track,¹¹⁵ and then finding that too rough, we went another path, and which we had to pay 2^d for; the one was scarcely better than the other. This is a great drawback to Hobart Town; as it is almost impossible¹¹⁶ to see the various beautiful views, the great attractions in this country, without rendering it a matter of doubt every moment, whether your horse will not put it’s [sic] foot unhappily on some loose stone, and come down. Persons will say “why not walk to see these views”? and certainly I should say it was the better way; but unfortunately, my legs, altho’ very thick – are not strong enough to carry me. Soon after

science and learning and a gift for the people. The road on which AB rode was built from government funds and employed about 100 men (Robson 357-59, Alexander 140).

¹¹⁴ Throughout the summer months the band of the 99th Foot performed each Thursday afternoon in the grounds of the Royal Society Gardens, now the Royal Botanical Gardens. The programme was advertised the day before.

¹¹⁵ A rocky gully south of Hobart Town, between Davey St and the Sandy Bay Rivulet.

¹¹⁶ Superscript in original.

we got home, William arrived in a very drenched state; nevertheless, he entered into the fun of seeing two miserably intoxicated persons rolling about in the street, and finally falling down.

D^r Hadley remained to dinner, and he was the only one of the three who left the table before 10 o'clock. M^r Dry and William then went out to the Theatre¹¹⁷ or some place of entertainment, and did not return until 12; when W. C. went out to pass a few hours with a friend over the garden palings! It really disgusts one, to see gentlemen entering into intimacies of this kind, for nearly merely the purpose of gossiping and scandalizing persons of a higher & better class, as is the case in the present instance. [...]

November 5th Monday. We were up pretty early, and had some of our lessons said before breakfast. At 11, Miss Burnett came to read Macauley;¹¹⁸ and D^r Hadley paid me a short visit soon after; I never remember being so glad to see him before! but really he is so amiable; so very peculiarly kind & affectionate to me, that I should be ungrateful if I did not indeed show some fondness for him.

In the afternoon I drove M^{rs} Curll and the children to Boa Vista, for the purpose of bringing in M^{rs} Lyttleton, and the child. When we got there, we found the bird flown! I however, quietly walked off with Emma and the trunk! and drove out a second time for the dear lady, after depositing the two "small fry". The Bishop & M^{rs} Nixon were both at home, and received me kindly; his lordship especially; and gave me his arm to the Carriage.

M^r Dry dined at home; and Miss Buckland came in after dinner = so we passed a very pleasant evening; altho' I could have had a pleasanter.

M^{rs} E. Bedford sat some time here this morning; she is in miserable spirits about poor M^r Lloyd,¹¹⁹ and no wonder! She said to me, "Oh! you can understand my feelings, I know; only

¹¹⁷ Regular theatre performances were held at the Royal Amphitheatre in Murray St and the Royal Albert Theatre.

¹¹⁸ Thomas Babington Macaulay (1800-1859). The women are possibly reading Macaulay's well-reviewed and immensely popular *History of England from the Accession of James the Second* (Leipzig: Bernhard Tauchnitz, 1849), the first two volumes of which sold out within ten days.

¹¹⁹ The *Courier* 10 Oct. 1849 includes the information that Lieutenant Lloyd of the 96th Foot had died fifteen days after arrival in India.

think what would you suffer were M^r D— to die’! Poor thing! I can but sympathize with her. She has lent me “Brougham’s lives of Statesmen”,¹²⁰ and I’m going to commence it. ...

November 8th Thursday – We have just returned from D^r Dawson’s, where we had a very agreeable dinner party; notwithstanding my being in considerable uneasiness after the very severe pain I have suffered all this day. ... The Misses Walker¹²¹ sang together, and altho’ not sweetly, still in tune. M^{rs} Frazer¹²² sang too; she is very nervous, but has been well taught: I think too, that she would sing better if M^r Frazer were not there. M^{rs} Dawson looked as Jolly as ever; and was devotedly attended by D^r Hadley. Miss Scott did not sing very well tonight = she was very flat. M^{rs} Brock played, oh! so brilliantly! it is very delightful to see how exhausted she becomes after playing for some time; she throws herself back on the sofa, and pants! I feel convinced that she and her “sposo” are not amiably disposed towards one another; they give one another regular “looks of defiance”, enough to say “there now, take that”!

I was in great pain during the evening, and changed color so often, that the good people noticed it. Sometimes I am wicked enough to think that life is too long for me; and this terrible pain too severe! But when I reason with myself, I know that I deserve all & every sort of punishment from my wise & justly-provoked Creator. – Yes! I do indeed merit pain, misery, grief! and if it be ordained for me to pass thro’ this weary world so afflicted – I must e’en bow to it.

November 9th Friday. After the children had done their lessons, Miss Burnett read Macauley for some time; Marianne came in, and would not be quiet, until I gave her some work. Next came D^r Hadley: but did not remain long. At ½ past 2, M^{rs} Bedford came to go for her ride with us; D^r

¹²⁰ Henry Brougham, *Historical Sketches of Statesmen who Flourished in the Time of George III*, 3 vols (London: Charles Knight, 1841-1843).

¹²¹ Presumably daughters of Thomas Walker of Rhodes.

¹²² The former Mary Bisdee, daughter of John Hutton Bisdee (1796-1862), pastoralist of Hutton Park near Jericho, and his wife Ann. Mary married Peter Fraser in England in 1848, and the two returned to VDL shortly after.

Dawson sat some time with me; and D^r Hadley took him down to Brown's to have Ty's portrait taken;¹²³ he was upwards of an hour gone, and there we sat. ...

I've been mending silk socks, and stitching collars today. Dear William says he must, he is afraid, go to Norfolk Island; in such case, I shall take a small cottage somewhere near: yet I hope he will not be obliged to go.

William went to M^{rs} Smith's this evening; & M^r Dry dined with M^r Hollings;¹²⁴ I have not seen him today at all. I was delighted at D^r Hadley kindly coming & sitting with me; as he gave up his dance for it! He is such a queer mortal; I do like him excessively. I hope M^r Macgregor¹²⁵ will bring over March for him. After he left, I opened the drawing room door, and heard such an exquisite bass voice, singing a good second to an indifferent first; so I listened, and found the sounds proceeded from our kitchen; and that Francis was the singer. Dear me! what would not some persons give for such a voice; and here it is thrown away on a Groom! ...

Marianne and M^{rs} J. Burnett called as we came in from riding; they brought me Margaret Percival,¹²⁶ a book I have long wished to read. [...]

November 14th Wednesday. Yesterday I sat the whole morning at work, and commenced the very pretty bouquet for a cushion; the children were with me; and I told them they might talk to each other, but not to me. I was occasionally so entertained, that I burst out laughing; they did say such comical things!

At luncheon, M^r Montgomerie came; & I was so glad to see him again, altho' he looks very ill indeed. Poor fellow! he says he shall never get better; = & I fear, not. He sat some time with me; and whilst here, a box came with D^r Hadley's compliments – I knew it was the dress, immediately; and I asked M^r Montgomerie why he had not granted my request to him, not to get

¹²³ Ty or Tiger was the Dawson's small and much loved dog. Thomas Browne offered a "New Style of Coloured Portrait ... equal to the best Portraits taken in England or on the Continent, and infinitely superior to anything of the kind attempted in the colony" for a price of 10s. 6d. at "31 Macquarie St, a Verandah Cottage, three doors from the Hutchins School" (*Courier* 1 Dec. 1849).

¹²⁴ Perhaps an employee of the Honourable East India Company Service, visiting VDL. Mr Hollings was a guest at Lady Denison's New Year's Day Juvenile Ball in 1850 and also at a dinner of the Mercantile Assistant's Association at which he proposed a toast and urged the expansion of manufacturing industries in VDL (*Courier* 9 Feb. 1850). Hollings left the colony on the 615-ton barque *Mahommed Shah* which departed Hobart Town 10 Feb. 1850 for Calcutta with a cargo of horses (*CT* 12 Feb. 1850).

¹²⁵ Samuel Macgregor (see entry 17 June 1849).

¹²⁶ Elizabeth Sewell, *Margaret Percival*. Ed. W. Sewell. 2 vols (London: Longman, 1847).

it? He had never received my note. D^r Hadley is too kind & generous; I really do not wish for such handsome presents! I have no business to receive them! Yet it is really of little use my saying so, he only gives me the more! ...

William dined at Mess; M^r Dry out; and D^r Hadley remained here until ½ past 8 o'clock. I was happy to see him here once more; he is always so amiable, gentle, & kind to me. I never met any person yet, who studied me as much as he does; and indeed I am very fond of him in consequence. This may be very wrong; I cannot help, or unsay, or unthink it!

At ½ past 9, I got Francis to drive me to M^{rs} Curll's; Several persons were there before me, and they continued to arrive until 10. – Most of the gentlemen came from Mess; and I must say, pleasantly squiff! M^r Clarke commenced upon me; and M^{rs} E. Bedford would have had some reason to conclude what she so insisted on was the case. I could keep him in order tho', altho' he did try a few small tricks. ...

At 12, M^r Clarke told me he was going; so I requested him to take me too. We said Good Night, and left; taking with us W. C., who protested he would allow nobody else to have the key of the house, besides himself: So after seeing me home, he took an umbrella, and walked back to M^{rs} Curll's. I cannot be glad enough, at having left so early, for after that, all of the gentlemen became quite fou! How very gentlemanly! & civilized! They kept up the dancing until nearly three. W. C. did not return home until today at 3 o'clock; he passed his hours in a most improving & refined manner & place, I believe!

D^r Hadley came at 11 – and I rode to Boa Vista, and M^{rs} Booth's with him. M^{rs} Lyttleton & Maria are coming in on Friday to pass the day with me. The Bishop was there, and made himself very agreeable; he took me into his Study, & showed me all his prints, etc. As to Hector, he never had such a game of romps; he was in and out of the window, in great glee.

I can but regret not knowing the family better; but as it is, I could not bring myself to remain [to] luncheon – altho' so much pressed. ...

November 15th Thursday. I was working all morning in my room, and the Visitors never ceased paying me visits; it was quite amusing, excepting for it's [sic] preventing the reading; still we

progressed with Macaulay. At 1, Miss Burnett left; and we had luncheon – D^r Hadley joined us. After this, we made ready for the Band. William drove M^{rs} Curll, Eliza,¹²⁷ Annie, Louis and myself to the gardens; and then went for M^{rs} Lyttleton and Maria. They did not remain very long, as Maria is weak, and her Mother fidgets so terribly about her. ...

November 16th Friday. Altho' feeling very tired, I got up this morning at a little after 5 o'clock; and was thus enabled to do some of my worsted work¹²⁸ before breakfast.

As William had to go on the Board,¹²⁹ we sent John to Boa Vista for M^{rs} Lyttleton and Maria. They are both looking much better than when they came over. ... M^{rs} Lyttleton told me a report she heard respecting a person and myself! 'Tis very kind of the people taking so deep an interest in my conduct! ...

November 17th Saturday. This morning I devoted to work, as the children have no lessons on this day. Miss Buckland came in at ½ past 12 = & M^{rs} E. Bedford immediately after, and remained until luncheon; she then went, and D^r Hadley came. William went to play cricket;¹³⁰ Louis walked with Joseph¹³¹ to the ground; and we rode out. We had gone to see the play, and cantered to the Anson fence,¹³² when such a shower came on; and back we went. I then dismounted, & Miss R. Kemp who had likewise just ridden up, got off too; and we all went into the Marquee pitched for the Cricketers! ...

¹²⁷ Eliza Vicary, niece of Mary Anne Roberts (q.v.).

¹²⁸ Wool worked on canvas, according to commercially available patterns. Patterns were engraved on copper plates and then printed onto graph paper: a symbol in each square indicated the colour of the wool required, the patterns were hand-coloured. This technique was pioneered in Germany but by 1830 manufacturers in England were producing patterns. Designs were elaborate and reflected an interest in geometric and Florentine design. Worsted work was known as Berlin wool work after 1820, today known as tapestry, although this term was not used in the nineteenth century. Worsted work was popular for furnishings such as stool tops and firescreens, slippers and waistcoats (Marsh 13-26).

¹²⁹ William – along with Robert Power, Surveyor-General, 1841-1855 and the Deputy Surveyor-General, Hugh C. Cotton – was appointed to a Board of Enquiry established by Denison in 1849 to review the survey department. The Board reported in 1850 (Townesley 55).

¹³⁰ William was a regular participant in local cricket matches. This game was played between the “married and single gentlemen” in the Government Paddock (presumably the Domain on the eastern edge of Hobart Town). Wickets were “pitched at 1 o'clock” (*Courier* 17 Nov. 1849) and a return match was played on 15 Dec. 1849.

¹³¹ Not identified.

¹³² The 1742-ton prison hulk *Anson*, a converted frigate, moored in New Town Bay from April 1844 until 1850, accommodated female prisoners in the six-month probationary period following their arrival in VDL. As the vessel was moored offshore and there was little associated infrastructure, the fence to which AB refers is possibly associated with the former New Town Probation Station located on the northern side of the bay (Williams 80-82).

November 22nd Thursday. ... Monday we went on board the *Swift* at 4 o'clock; There were a great many persons there. We got into a boat from the Commissariat Wharf, and walked up an enclosed ladder to the Deck of the Vessel. This latter was perfectly covered in with flags of all Nations = and I should say some were even fanciful in their designs [sic].

Soon after we got on board, the Band of the 98th struck up "the roast beef of old England",¹³³ (his Excellency being there to the minute of 4 o'clock –) and in we most of us went to Dinner. D^r Hadley was standing near me when we were about to go, but he never offered his arm, so M^r Impey¹³⁴ took me. I sat on Sir William's left hand, M^{rs} Nixon on his right; he was very chatty & pleasant; and took charge of my bouquet for me during dinner.

Soon after the luncheon, dîner, dinner – was over, dancing commenced; and immediately all had finished their refreshment, the tables were cleared away, and we then had both sides of the deck for dancing. ... D^r Hadley did me the honor of asking me when too late, and after he had asked all his other friends. We left at 10 o'clock; D^r & M^{rs} Dawson & family; M^r & M^{rs} E. Bedford, M^r C. Wilmott, D^r Hadley and myself. M^{rs} Bedford kindly took us in, and D^r Hadley came home with me; as William had given me in charge to him. How different he was on shore, to on board! I never did surely like any man as much as I do him; I miss him; I confide in him; and it will be very sad to me to say Adieu to him. My heart misgives me as to when I get home! I shall never be happy in this world, never!¹³⁵ ...

Yesterday I felt too ill to go out, as I had applied leeches the previous night, to my stomach. ... M^{rs} Curll came to see me, and we arranged about going in the evening to the Theatre.

We dined at ½ past 5, and at 7 started for le spectacle. William gave three tickets away, to Miss Buckland, and the Misses A. & A. Sorell; so the Cab went first to M^r Curll's – then W. C.

¹³³ "The Roast Beef of Old England" is a patriotic ballad originally written by Henry Fielding for his play *The Grub Street Opera* and first performed in 1731. A new version, composed by Richard Loveridge in 1735, was often performed at ceremonial occasions and theatre evenings.

¹³⁴ Presumably a Captain Impey who, accompanied by his wife, arrived Hobart Town 17 Mar. 1849 from Calcutta and Madras and departed 15 Dec. 1849 for NZ.

¹³⁵ AB was a guest at the "grand ball and supper" hosted by Captain Aldham and his officers and attended by more than "280 persons (the *elite* of Hobart)." Music was provided by the quadrille band of the 99th Foot and "dancing commenced at 6 o'clock and was kept up with great spirit until 2 o'clock next morning" (*Courier* 24 Nov. 1849).

and M^r Curll took Miss Buckland down in the carriage = whilst I called for my two Catholic friends. It was so good to see the crush at the door; I thought that some of the females would have had their heads taken off! – for I like Lot’s wife, they insisted on looking behind them. We got in thro’ the back door, and established ourselves in the left-hand Stage box.

M^r & M^{rs} Curll were determined to have a good view – and both got in front as much as possible. M^r & M^{rs} Drake, M^r & M^{rs} Agnew, M^r Clarke, and D^r Hadley soon came in; the latter soon went off again too, to the Military Box up stairs. After the first Piece, I, too, went up stairs, and was glad I did, as I could see so much better. ... The performance was admirable; the dresses very good; the Band sounded to great advantage – and altogether, it was a most agreeable evening.¹³⁶ ...

November 23rd Friday. Whilst with the children this morning, M^{rs} Curll & Miss Buckland called; the latter is always on some kind errand, and so it was now. She is going to purchase me some wools.

M^{rs} Curll is always lazy; and really keeps others so too. There she sat, poor little woman! grumbling & trying to make me understand that at length, after one twelvemonth’s endeavours, she was “as ladies wish to be who love their lords”.¹³⁷ This to me was so entertaining, as it was only last week she told me of a queer mistake she made at M^{rs} Smith’s (R.N.)¹³⁸ When she told me of it, I remonstrated with her on her want of delicacy; but she said “Oh! Hannah always does these things for me! Why she often sees me naked”! This was a finale. Whilst she was here, D^r Hadley & Captⁿ Pratt came; the latter commenced congratulating M^{rs} Curll on her recovery from the Maysles!¹³⁹ I could not help laughing, altho’ I felt but little inclined for it; – she put on such a face, and said that she believed some impertinent person had said so, but she had[,] had the

¹³⁶ AB attended an amateur performance at the Royal Victoria Theatre in aid of the Tasmanian Masonic Benevolent Fund. The evening, the first for sixteen years, was well patronised and in excess of eight hundred tickets were sold. Those present included naval and military personnel, the Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, Colonial Treasurer and “many ladies.” The *Courier* contended that “[i]t would have looked much better on the part of some gentlemen who occupied box seats, had they given them up to the ladies, rather than witness them occupy the pit” (*Courier* 24 Nov. 1849).

¹³⁷ Euphemism for pregnancy widely used in the nineteenth century.

¹³⁸ Sarah Aubrey née Read (b. 1821) and married in 1844 to Alexander John Smith (b. 1816), lieutenant Royal Navy.

¹³⁹ Measles.

measles at home, & was not likely to have them here! Captain Pratt left; D^r Hadley read out the news from an English Paper just come in; and M^{rs} Curll began to be restless, & at last, left too. ...

M^r Dry went this morning, to his new abode. He is going to live with M^r Hollings after M^r & M^{rs} Impey leave; and is staying with them until they do so.

D^r Hadley is going to M^{rs} Chapman's¹⁴⁰ tonight; and M^{rs} E. Bedford said she would tell me with whom he flirted!

M^r Clarke sent me such a handsome book this evening, as a Birthday present; It is very kind of him, & so I wrote him. Maryanne Burnett sat with me before her dinner; she is in miserable spirits – and not much to be wondered at, when we think of the way in which her Father treats her.

November 25th Sunday – Yesterday ~~be~~ being my 32nd Birthday, I asked some friends to an alfresco dinner; and the day being lovely; the spot chosen for the scene, beautiful; the good people all nearly, in excellent spirits, the day past very pleasantly. The party consisted of Mistresses Dawson, Stonor, E. Bedford, Curll & Baxter; Misses Scott, Burnett, Buckland & Walker; Mess^{rs} Turpey, Stonor, Fleming, Curll, E. Bedford, Clarke, Noyes, Lochnar, Akers,¹⁴¹ Dry; Captain Pratt – D^{rs} Dawson, Hadley & MacWharrie. We dined at 3 o'clock; and came into town at a ¼ to 7. I drove M^{rs} Stonor, M^{rs} Curll, and Mary Anne. In the evening M^r & M^{rs} E. Bedford & Miss M. Scott came in; Miss Buckland & D^r Hadley were here already. William was so tired, he went to bed, instead of joining the group. ...

D^r Hadley had quite a tiff today with me; he wrote me yesterday morning to say that the party at M^{rs} Chapman's was dull, because I was not there! I thought at the time, that if he had

¹⁴⁰ Presumably Catherine (b.1823), née Swan, wife of Hobart Town merchant Thomas Daniel Chapman (1815-1884), and third daughter of Hobart Town businessman, John Swan and his wife Mary Cameron.

¹⁴¹ Charles Style Akers was a member of the Royal Engineers and a watercolourist. He arrived in VDL in June 1849 and married Henrietta Margaret, the youngest daughter of Colonel Henry Despard in 1851. He was transferred to Norfolk Island in 1852 (DAAO). Alban Charles Stonor (1817-1866) and his wife Eliza Anne (b.1826), second daughter of A.R.Truro of Longford, had been passengers on the *Victor* with the Fraser and Burnett families in June 1849. The couple had married in 1844. Stonor had arrived in VDL in 1842 as Crown Solicitor, but returned to London in Jan. 1847 for personal and professional reasons. He was appointed Solicitor-General on his return in 1849. William Taylor Noyes, resident in the colony for some time, employed in the 1830s as a clerk in the Private Secretary's office, and later as Assistant Police Magistrate and coroner at Waterloo Point where he had responsibility for the Great Swanport and Spring Bay districts. Mr Turpey is not identified.

fancied it would be so, he knew I was not going, and therefore might have remained; it was evident he preferred the multitude to me! = but I said nothing until M^r Montgomerie & M^{rs} E. Bedford said they had never seen D^r Hadley in such good spirits; dancing, laughing, & flirting, until 3 o'clock. This did appear certainly very like an untruth: at least, paying me a compliment, at the expense of Truth – which is worse. So when I told him in a note that I believed this, or something of the sort – he immediately turned quite vexed! Said at first, that he did mean what he wrote = then that he could not get away – (M^r Hollings left at ½ past 11!) and lastly “what did he go for but to enjoy himself”? Thereby clearly proving that he had merely said he was dull, to try & please me! Instead of which I now shall for ever doubt his word in such cases.

When I am at a dance with him, he looks so grave = so tomorrow night, I shall go to M^r Fleming's, but come away very early; he can then enjoy himself with his other friends. [...]
November 27th Tuesday. William & I went in M^r Curll's Cab to M^r Fleming's; it poured with rain! but when we got there, everything looked so snug and warm, that I, for one, soon forgot the outdoor disagreeable. There were a good many persons there; and I think the ladies look better there, and at the Mess, than any other house. It must be that the rooms are nicely lighted. My friend D^r Hadley, had engaged me on Board the *Swift*, for the first and second Quadrilles this evening; so when I went in, and he soon after came up, I of course imagined he had come “to claim my hand”! Not at all! He had only come to tell me he was going to Dance that Set with M^{rs} E. Bedford, and to engage me for the next. I thought it polite; told him of his engagement to me, but insisted on his keeping the newly-made one, and said I should not dance with him at all. No more I did; so after Supper he left; and so did I, just after the Set of Quadrilles with M^r Isdale. M^r Clarke & I had the longest chat we ever had in Public; and he deigned to see me thro' a Quadrille.

Well! I returned alone, and it rained – very much; so after putting all my various dress away, I got into bed; without writing my journal. ...

November 28th Wednesday. This is the anniversary of the day on which poor Captⁿ O'Hara¹⁴² was buried; May we hope that he is now happy: or is the sin he committed unforgiven? I can even now fancy I hear that dreadful shot, which ended his existence! And the muffled drum I can never hear without tears. Ah! if I had only gone instead of him, what misery I might have been spared! And yet I am not right to question God's acts in any way. ...

November 29th Thursday. ... I had a shake of the hands from the Bishop, at Webb's; where he caught me testing coffee liquer [sic].

In the evening I took my work, and went into M^{rs} Bedford's, where I remained until nearly 11. When I returned, William was sitting in the drawing room, and said the reason why he did not go, was, that the servants were all tipsy. As to Ann, she was lying on her bed, on sundry frocks, bonnets, pinnafores, etc – and with Louis' glass beside her, containing some drink of some kind; which, upon her rising, fell to the ground, and shivered into atoms. How very disgusting, and at the same time, distressing, it is to see a Woman in this state.

November 30th Friday. Everybody appeared on the *qui vive*¹⁴³ today; at an early hour might be seen groups of gaily-dressed individuals, bending their steps towards the anticipated "scene of action", the Regatta ground.

M^{rs} E. Bedford, Miss M. Scott, Vizzy, Nelly,¹⁴⁴ Louis & Annie, accompanied me at 9 o'clock to the Flag Staff, to see the boats start. D^r Hadley met us at the Barrack Gate, altho' it was rather early in the day; and Mess^{rs} Johnston and Montgomerie came up to the look-out, whilst we were there. William drove Captain & M^{rs} Goldsmith¹⁴⁵ to the Domain at ½ past 11= and the carriage then returned for me; After the children's dinner, I drove them and M^{rs} Stonor to the Regatta. We went on to the ground quite alone; but I espied D^r Hadley in advance, and sent Louis

¹⁴² Willoughby Davy O'Hara (1808-1838) had been in Launceston with the 50th Foot in the 1830s. He had shot himself at the military barracks in Sydney on 26 Nov. 1838. At the time AB felt partly responsible. She had rejected his romantic advances in Launceston (see entry 3 Dec. 1837) but in Sydney seemed to be flattered by his attention: "Bye the Bye Captain O'Hara called on the 13th and twice since" (16 Nov. 1838).

¹⁴³ On the alert (French = *être sur le qui-vive*).

¹⁴⁴ Perhaps Virginia Mary (Vizzy) (b. 1838), and Eleanor de-Gillern (Nelly) (b. 1839), eldest and second daughters respectively of AB's neighbours, Edward and Mary Bedford.

¹⁴⁵ Captain Goldsmith's vessel, the *Rattler* arrived in Hobart Town on 27 Nov. from London. His wife and son were among those on board.

to him; when he kindly came to our assistance. We stood in the “Grandstand” for about ½ an hour, seeing and being seen; we then went to the Flower show = a very poor affair! the cauliflowers being the best worth seeing there.¹⁴⁶ We met M^r Dry there, who had returned to town yesterday; and as he wished Louis to remain with him to go in the roundabout, I let him do so.

By the time we had seen the show, we had had enough ~~to~~ of the dust and sun for today; so we came home. I then drove M^{rs} Stonor home, and went to see M^{rs} Dawson, whom I met coming down the road with her dear, good husband, just going to walk in M^r Allport’s garden.¹⁴⁷ We stood and talked for some time = and then I drove Annie home; where I found Ann alone, but so tipsy! I had to unharness Peter; and locked the stable until James returned = who had only gone out for an hour!! [...]

December [14th] Wednesday. I’m very miserable tonight, and nobody to tell my troubles to! I cannot say precisely what is the cause of my uneasiness, but I attribute the feeling principally to a letter I had yesterday from dear M^{rs} Rutledge. She tells me that M^r Baxter is in a most unamiable mood; and very much troubled with his servants. His temper will never stand this. ...¹⁴⁸

*December [15th] Saturday*¹⁴⁹ – I have an event to note down in my new Journal; and altho’ affording my book an interest, it is at the expense of poor M^{rs} Curll’s blighted hopes!

All the morning I had been very busy, & I sat down for an hour to my worsted work, when Ann came to tell me M^r Curll was in the Drawing Room; down I went, and found him with a “long” face; and as he seemed to wish me to go over to see his wife, off I went – carrying with me a bottle of – not Eau-de-Cologne – but Castor Oil!

Just before I started, M^r Montgomerie and D^r Hadley called for a few minutes; the man too, who is taking Ada’s likeness.

Well; I found my little friend in bed, and as I expected, she had miscarried. She had been crying a good deal, and was in slight pain; so I gave her some Castor Oil; and sent M^r Curll for

¹⁴⁶ The *Courier* agreed with AB’s assessment. It writes, “the exhibition of flowers was not so good, and the specimens were not so numerous as in former years” (5 Dec. 1849).

¹⁴⁷ Joseph Allport lived at Aldridge Lodge. He was a keen gardener and regular exhibitor and prize winner at the annual garden show.

¹⁴⁸ Notebook 12 (MS Q182 Item 1) concludes with this entry.

¹⁴⁹ First entry Notebook 13 (MS Q182 Item 2): Volume 17.

laudanum – He, being in a considerable fright; went for D^r MacWharrie; and not finding him, went to D^r Hadley. I was ashamed to hear his voice, for her room, and herself, were so very dirty. The counterpane¹⁵⁰ & sheets were – like soot! (slightly exaggerated) I was very sorry tho’ for the poor little body, as she had reckoned so much on having a little boy! We had quite a laugh; She was talking of making room for Henry in her bed, so I said he ought not to sleep there: and she said “Oh! what should I do without him! he never moves hardly; and lies with his arm round my waist!” – “and you see the effect of either this, or eating cockles”. D^r MacWharrie called, but did not see the Patient, as D^r Hadley has prescribed for her.

As I am vain, I may as well narrate the fact that on Thursday Evening, I had desperate attention paid to me by two of the gentlemen present; one declaring, that a little Demon had lately taken possession of him; & that he felt scarcely answerable for what he either said, or did! I advised him to cast it out! The other declared that immediately he heard me commence singing, he lost two tricks at whist, and caused a revoke. I told him never to listen to the voice of the charmer, charm he never so wisely! at which he laughed.

December 16th Sunday. I went up to sit with M^{rs} Curll for an hour before going to Church this morning; the carriage came for me, and Louis & I went to St David’s. The Bishop preached, & a very good sermon. ...

December 17th Monday. This is the day on which Maria wished me to go over to Longford, tomorrow being the College fête.

Whilst at my cup of tea, M^{rs} E. Bedford came in; and in a little while, Miss Buckland. ... The latter did not remain long, but kindly went shopping for me; and has succeeded in getting me such a pretty dress for the 1st.

M^{rs} E. Bedford stayed a long time; she was in miserable spirits, notwithstanding which, she again began about M^r Clarke’s love for me! She said she had told him, that she knew he was very fond of me; and that whatever I asked him do, he was sure to agree with me, & do it. “Oh! he does love you”! said she – “and quite as well, if not better, than, two others you know of”! This

¹⁵⁰ A bed covering which is usually quilted.

certainly was a confusing affair this time! The last attack I could parry, with confidence & S truth, but not so now. I may say that I never in the slightest degree gave M^r Clarke any idea of my preference for him, unless in the most friendly & sisterly way. I would take his hand, and talk to him, as if to some younger brother = and until very lately I imagined he felt the same for me.

Yet M^{rs} Bedford is still wrong; he does not show any such thing as admiration; and [it] is only in the eye of Jealousy, that such things appear. ...

William drove Miss Buckland into town, and M^{rs} Bedford remained until 11 – I came upstairs as fast as I could, to hear Louis [say] his lessons, and then off I went to get ready some pâtès for M^r Meredith.¹⁵¹ William returned to luncheon, and then drove Louis down to the Steamer, where he embarked with Sir W. Denison & M^r Clarke.¹⁵² They are to remain away until Wednesday.

After they went, I put on my bonnet, and ran almost, to see M^{rs} Curll; I sat there until nearly 3 o'clock; and as I had ordered the horses then, to go for a ride with Louis, I came home.

D^r Hadley had called whilst I was away, & said he would ride at 3 o'clock; he came in a few minutes before, and I got ready to go out. M^r Montgomerie accompanied us, so I left Louis to play with his small friends next door, as he so much wished it.

Annie was with M^{rs} Stonor for the afternoon, and she brought her home at 7. –

We rode to the gardens, and eat cherries; and walked about for some time. We next went to M^r Bicheno's, where I again indulged in the same luxury. The old gentleman appeared glad to see us; how very stout he is! ...

I am beginning "Vanity Fair",¹⁵³ but cannot form an idea of when I shall finish it. I had a visitor at 9 o'clock, whom I am always glad to have, altho' I sometimes think the feeling is single. *December 25th Tuesday & Christmas-day*. And this is the way in which the birth of our Merciful Saviour is commem[orated]! All the men, (4 in number,) and Ann, sitting in the kitchen, perfectly

¹⁵¹ Perhaps George Meredith (1811-1880), Police Magistrate at Port Sorell 1844-1848, politician 1850s and 1860s, husband of author Louisa Anne Meredith (1812-1895).

¹⁵² Denison departed on the Government steamer *Kangaroo* for Port Arthur (HTA 18 Dec. 1850).

¹⁵³ William Makepeace Thackeray, *Vanity Fair: A Novel Without a Hero* (London: Smith and Elder, 1848).

intoxicated. Again those exquisite words are perhaps being said “Forgive them, Father; for they know no better”!¹⁵⁴ –

But how can I account for my extreme want of punctuality, in not having written for so very many days in my book. – No excuse –.

On Saturday I went with D^r Macquarie to Captⁿ Booth’s; and eat such an immense quantity of cherries. On the previous Wednesday, D^r Hadley, M^r Montgomerie & I went to M^r Bicheno’s and the Government Garden, and eat cherries at both places.

Sunday Mess^{rs} Clarke & Maine, D^r Hadley, and Miss Buckland dined with us.

Today D^{rs} MacWharrie & Hadley, Miss Buckland and M^r Akers dined here. Late in the evening M^r Clarke came to wish us the compliments of the Season. I was much entertained by the manoeuvre [sic] of this gentleman; he certainly is a complete politician.

Yesterday D^r Hadley & I rode out to Newtown Park, the property of M^r Swanston; It is such a Delightful spot. It is more English, than any other garden I’ve seen since I left home; the trees are older than in most places, and there is a little clear stream running thro’ the whole garden.¹⁵⁵

December 27th Thursday. This morning I wrote to Harriet, & explained I trust, fully, my wishes with regard to my unhappy little property; it is a most extraordinary thing that they will not settle the business at once, as they certainly could do, if they wished, having Powers-of-Attorney, etc.¹⁵⁶

I sometimes think it would be better for me to take the children home to their Grandmamma; but then again William will not go now until he gets his leave of absence. My own wishes prompt me but too much to remain; in fact, when I leave this country, I leave my happiness behind me.

¹⁵⁴ Allusion to Luke 23:34: “Father, forgive them; for they know what they do.”

¹⁵⁵ Charles Swanston (1811-1880), prominent Hobart Town politician, banker and merchant, arrived VDL 1829; he built Newtown Park in 1833. The house is described by Emily Childers as a “large rambling house – large rooms, fine hall & a beautiful garden” (Uhl 150).

¹⁵⁶ AB and her siblings were in disagreement about the legacy of property – money, jewellery, plate and paintings – from the estates of their uncle James Hadden (d. 1846) and their mother (d. c. 1841-1843). The dispute intensified when AB and William returned to England. William accused Harriet of impropriety in dealing with the respective estates (Frost, *Face* 148-50).

December 30th Sunday. I had intended going to church this morning, but was so extremely fatigued from my trip up the Mountain yesterday; but I've not said anything about this said trip, as yet. ... Our trip up to the Ice-house was very pleasing; the ascent is very steep, and the poor horses suffered a good deal, it being so hot a day.¹⁵⁷ M^r Montgomerie, D^r Hadley & I formed the party, and we had a very nice afternoon. The view from the Mountain is certainly very beautiful; and the day was so clear, we could see an immense distance. Hobart Town, 5 miles & ½ from us (beneath) was seen distinctly, and the shipping, of which there is at present a good deal in Harbour, looked well.

An old soldier of the 63rd¹⁵⁸ is stationed at the "Springs",¹⁵⁹ and his hut is clean & snug. He was anxious for us to have luncheon; and, not like most of we more refined persons, not only asked, but spread out his little store, in a truly hospitable style. We may frequently learn from those in more humble life, some of the Christian virtues! I have been often told that such unbounded hospitality & kindness as are practised in the Wilds of Australia for instance, are only symptoms of "Savage life"! Give me such.

December 31st Monday. We had a ride in the afternoon, and I remained on my way home, at St Mary's Hospital, to take a hot bath.¹⁶⁰ William dined at Mess, and I, for once, had a little hour to myself. I went into M^{rs} E. Bedford's for a short time, and returned before 9 o'clock, as I knew my friend D^r Hadley would be sure to come & see me on the last day of the Year. And so he did; the dear, kind creature! He did not remain very long: But I determined on sitting up & seeing the New Year in; So I wrote, and read, and worked. At 12 o'clock I opened the front door and walked out,

¹⁵⁷ The first of several ice-houses – a thick-walled cabin dug deep into the mountainside – was completed on the south side of Mount Wellington in 1849. They were packed with snow in winter that compacted into ice, and which was then carved into blocks and conveyed to Hobart Town. The ice-house was reached by a steep and rocky bridle path which was popular for tourist parties.

¹⁵⁸ 1/63rd (West Suffolk) Regiment of Foot stationed in VDL 1829-1833.

¹⁵⁹ A picturesque picnic destination on the eastern slopes of Mount Wellington, 4½ miles (7 km) from Hobart Town.

¹⁶⁰ The hospital advertised that "WARM BATHS may be obtained at the Sanatorium connected with St. Mary's Hospital every afternoon from 3 to 6 p.m. Cold baths any hour before 2 p.m. A single Warm Bath, 2s. 6d; a Cold Bath, 1s; a ticket for twelve Warm Baths, £1s 1s. Apply to J. Moore, Steward on the premises" (CT 7 Dec. 1849).

to hear the bells ringing.¹⁶¹ Whilst I was standing in the garden, somebody pelted me twice with pebbles – and altho’ I asked “who was there”, still they would give me no answer = at last upon my saying “Two can play at that”, a hat was thrown over, and immediately after D^r MacWharrie jumped the fence. He is a mischievous man; but I paid him out before he left. He secured my tin box with this book in it, and I immediately pounced upon him, & got it back; I then told him I would give him some whisky, and went to get a glass from John, who had been in bed some time. The gentleman fortunately fancied I had given my little box to the man, and therefore did not torment me any more about it. After he had left the house, & was standing outside the door, I showed him the case; & he vainly tried to get in again for it. ...

And thus ended 1849 – I’ve been happier this year altogether, than last; altho’ perhaps I should not have been! I perfectly despise myself in some things, and often think to myself shall I ever be any different from what this year has made me?

Let us not too much enquire into these & other matters of such-like import! and we may then perchance be more content, at least within ourselves. ...

1st of January 1850 – Tuesday. ... I did not do much today in the way of taking exercise, as we were to go to Government House in the evening. ...

Miss Buckland dined with us; D^r & M^{rs} Dawson called & sat some time; and finding that the children were not dressed for the evening, they went away for a short drive, and returned to see them. They both looked very nicely; Annie’s high muslin dress looked distinguée:¹⁶² and dear Louis always does look the “gentleman”. William drove them to Government House at ½ past 6 = and when he returned, finished his dinner; I sang to D^r MacWharrie & him for some time after: then the one gentleman went up to get ready for the Ball, and the other sat on the window sill eating cherries, and talking trash. At 8 o’clock William drove down, and at 9 – D^r Hadley & M^r Foster¹⁶³ called for me in a Cab, and we proceeded to the entertainment.

¹⁶¹ Probably the bells of Holy Trinity Church which have the distinction of being the oldest bells made for an Australian church, first rung 1 Dec. 1847, although the church completed in 1848 was not consecrated until Dec. 1849.

¹⁶² Distinguished (French).

¹⁶³ Presumably one of the “officers of the 99th Regiment” listed as amongst the guests (CT 4 Jan. 1850).

After undergoing the derobing part of the play, I took William's arm, and went into the new Ball room; It is a beautiful one, and would do credit to any part of the World. I forget its length and breadth, but both are famous! You descend several steps into it, and these form quite a noble dais [sic], from which you beheld all the little folks dancing in such a pretty way to part of the 99th Band's music. Really children acquit themselves much better often, than grown up persons; the fact is, they are thinking less of what they are thought of, than we; and in consequence, they take full delight in whatever they are doing. Everybody looked well; for the lights were so good; and the floor excellent; The only drawback was, that the wax at times, showered down; and occasionally, not pleasantly, on my head & shoulders.¹⁶⁴ ...

My bouquet surpassed my usually beautiful ones; there were such exquisite flowers in it. I'm sure this is one thing I should so much miss in England, the flowers! I have quite a passion for them. The smallest child here you will see, as he goes past to church, pick a geranium from a hedge of this (with us prized) flower, and place it in his jacket. The waggoner we see frequently with what it is termed a bucket; for his chère amie¹⁶⁵ I suppose.

Dear me, these trifling things in themselves should civilize the "herd"; and most true – people are very tame in "these parts"!

Well! I passed a pleasant evening, as I said before; I wore a pretty dress, of worked pink net over white satin; looked tolerably; felt amiable – and so crept into the New Year! [...]

January 16th Wednesday. On Saturday the *Wellington* left; and in it M^r Drake & family;¹⁶⁶ I regret them leaving, for they were such nice persons = and one can ill afford to lose agreeable Society in a Colony.

~~Today~~ I wandered in and out of M^{rs} E. Bedford's, and took my "Farewell" of her in the evening. She wished me to remain to tea, but I thought I might be in the way; so I brought the

¹⁶⁴ The new ball-room recently erected on the right wing of Government House, was used for the first time for the Juvenile Ball. The dimensions of the room were "65 feet in length, 35 feet in breadth, and 20 feet in height," it was "lighted by three large sconces of 72 candles each" and could accommodate 30 musicians (*Courier* 5 Jan. 1850).

¹⁶⁵ Mistress (French).

¹⁶⁶ Assistant Commissary General Drake, his wife, and three children departed on the *Wellington*, a 484-ton barque, for London (*CT* 15 Jan. 1850). A sale of the family's household furniture and effects was conducted by auctioneers Lowes and Macmichael on 10 Jan. 1850 (*CT* 8 Jan. 1850).

children off with me. Poor soul! I pity her; for I'm sure now that her better sense prevails, and her infatuation is over, she really loves her husband.¹⁶⁷ ...

Today we had a ride round the Domain, to M^{rs} Booth's; on our way thither, we saw a crowd collecting near the "High School", and Louis came to tell us that a poor boy was drowned.¹⁶⁸ I turned quite faint, and had to get off Zoë; when D^r Hadley came back from seeing the child, he went to the Guard House for some water for me. Kind soul, that he is!

We had a great feed of M^{rs} Booth's gooseberries, etc = and when we went to the raspberries, we got pelted with apples, from Donald & George Hampden.¹⁶⁹ The woman Isabella Graves, was there, walking about with the eldest little girl; a very nice companion for her!¹⁷⁰ and then people wonder why Colonial girls are immodest?

I passed another very lonely evening; It is a bad plan, (if we can help it –) anticipating, or expecting any person's arrival whom we like.

January 17th Thursday – Annie's & Ada's birthday; the former 6 years old; the latter 15.

M^{rs} Curll sat the morning here, and in the afternoon took the two children & Boy, to the Government Gardens. They all walked, and were not tired. D^r Hadley & I rode there, and had a canter round the Domain afterwards. Dear Ada, had only been for one ride with me before, since I returned from Port Fairy; but this day she honored me with her company. [...]

January 21st Monday. ... Today was the fête at the High School, and all the rabble of the town collected there, with a small sprinkling of the better class. I felt so ill in the morning, and was loath to prevent D^r Hadley's enjoying the whole day with his friends; (knowing too, as I do, how he dislikes to see me at any parties =) so I refused to go for a ride with him in the afternoon; in the course of the morning however, D^r MacWharrie came, & had luncheon here, sat here until 3 o'clock – when we went out for a canter with Louis. As we came to the Barrack gate, we met

¹⁶⁷ Mrs Bedford and two children departed 16 Jan. on the *Calcutta* for London.

¹⁶⁸ Four-year-old John Williams was accidently drowned when he fell into a water-hole at the quarry in the Government paddock. The *CT* comments that "it is surprising ... there are not more accidents from the unprotected state of this dangerous place" (22 Jan. 1850).

¹⁶⁹ Not identified.

¹⁷⁰ Presumably the little girl to whom AB refers is the Booths' eldest daughter, Amelia Patricia Booth (b. 1839). Isabella Graves is possibly a servant.

Harefield riding with a coat under his arm, and a half grin on his countenance; so I asked him if his Master had sent his horse home, & intended to stay the remainder of the day? He told us he had come for a Cap, as D^r Hadley had lost his in the crowd; and certainly we did laugh. He is so fond of the Canaille,¹⁷¹ that I felt glad he was subjected to even a temporary inconvenience thro' them.¹⁷²

We rode thro' the Domain, and had just pulled up our horses from a trot, when D^r Hadley met us. M^r Sturt's¹⁷³ remark upon the gentlemen going to a Ball given by Tradesmen, came into my mind yesterday; "let those go who cannot have your dear Society"! Yes! now I'm away from him, and compare him with others – I know how much he liked me. [...]

January 28th Monday. Yesterday I went ~~wh~~ with Louis & Edward Bedford in the morning to church; it was very full, and very hot! What a pity it is that the windows cannot be opened, when the heat is so oppressive! ...

Captain Deering,¹⁷⁴ D^r Macwharrie & our usual "two", dined here; they did not come out of the dining room until very late – and I think that next Sunday I shall leave the room vacant for their reception. I hate tipsy men! ...

This morning when the carriage returned from the Office,¹⁷⁵ I took it to M^{rs} Dawson's, and made my call on her friend. ... After I returned, D^{rs} Hadley & Dawson came to see me; the former left soon, & the latter remained some time. Whilst he was here, an alarm of fire was given

¹⁷¹ The rabble (French).

¹⁷² The non-sectarian Hobart Town High School commenced operation with fifty students in Jan. 1850. The high school was privately subscribed but open to all. It was housed in a handsome neo-gothic building overlooking the harbour. It was the site of the University of Tasmania from 1890 until the 1960s, after that known as Domain House, it was the centre for Adult Education in Hobart. The *HTA* reports that a "dejeuner" was given by the "council of the High School, to subscribers and friends to commemorate the opening of the Institution." The newspaper estimates that the event was attended by upwards of four hundred people, including the Lieutenant- Governor. Following his departure those who had not been able to obtain a seat "took their place." "The building opened shortly before two o'clock about which time the company began to arrive, and in a short time almost every room in the noble edifice was crowded" (22 Jan. 1850).

¹⁷³ Evelyn Pitfield Shirley (1816-1885), brother of the explorer Charles Sturt, with whom AB was romantically involved at Yambuk.

¹⁷⁴ Rupert Barber Deering, 99th Foot, the "usual two" were Henry Hadley and Andrew Clarke.

¹⁷⁵ The Headquarters of the Royal Engineer Corps were located in a purpose built Gothic Revival style building constructed in 1847 and located at the eastern end of Macquarie St.

at the Factory¹⁷⁶ and the Engines were sent up there, and the “Army” turned out.¹⁷⁷ Majors Last¹⁷⁸ & Ainsworth¹⁷⁹ were very active = and it is what everybody might expect from two such able-bodied men! ...

January 30th Wednesday – ... William went to the rehearsal last night; & tonight we went to the Theatre to see the Amateur performance.¹⁸⁰ M^{rs} Curll dined with us, & went with us. We found it very crowded; I was so very tired long before we left – which was before the rest of the multitude; and when we got home, we found John quite fou, so William, according to promise, gave him such a boxing! After he had changed his dress, and gone down for M^r Clarke to bring up to the Barracks to Supper, I walked home with M^{rs} Curll – she being too frightened to remain in her own house, with only the Man servant! I certainly owned to myself that I was very good-natured to go! At about ½ past 12 o’clock, Hannah made her appearance, on her return from the Theatre, & I came home; having a chat with D^r MacWharrie on my way ~~thither~~ hither.

It is the last performance I shall attend; indeed I went this time quite against my will.

January 31st Thursday. Another very warm day, and with it came John’s departure; Really it is a good thing when one thinks coolly of it, for he was always so terribly unsteady. Burt, an old servant of William’s has come to us, and he knows all his ways, etc – so far, it is comfortable. I intend getting another woman servant, and then all will be right. [...]

February 4th Monday. The *Calcutta* has sailed three weeks tonight, and I hope the Passengers are getting over their sickness, & making themselves amiable. ...

M^{rs} Curll came to see me in the afternoon, and I was too ill almost to hear her talk. Oh! my poor little pet Joey has lost his voice; & he talks in a sort of whisper.

¹⁷⁶ The Female Factory was established in 1828 in a converted distillery at Cascades, on the outskirts of Hobart Town, to accommodate female convicts. In 1853, 1,000 women and 175 infants were at the Factory.

¹⁷⁷ The Hobart Town Police Fire Engine was the first in Hobart Town. It was established in 1845 and equipped with buckets and an “entire suite of new hose on an improved principle” (*Courier* 7 June 1845). The military and the local constabulary frequently controlled fire fighting efforts, often with little success (McNeice 136).

¹⁷⁸ Major Edward Last arrived VDL c. 1848 from active duty in NZ.

¹⁷⁹ O.D. Ainsworth, Major of Brigade arrived VDL early 1840s.

¹⁸⁰ Charity performance by the Amateur Dramatic Club at the Royal Victoria Theatre (Theatre Royal). The event was “well and fashionably attended” by an audience estimated at 800 persons (*Courier* 2 Feb. 1850).

Ann left today; & the new servant woman came; she is elderly, and seems cleanly in her dress.

By yesterday's Mail, William heard of M^r Jacquier's death; he died from Cholera, after only two days illness. I suppose the children are well off; we shall see = and I'm sure I trust so.¹⁸¹

I've been reading "Legends of Ireland" by Lover;¹⁸² and tonight began "English fireside",¹⁸³ such a well-written tale.

February 8th Friday. This is the 15th Anniversary of my very happy Wedding-day! Fifteen long years – most of them of Misery & want! No wonder I have such a merry face and mood.

Yesterday was William's Birthday; he does not like to keep such days, so I said nothing about it. ... I feel this morning so weak & miserable; and I am sure I do not give way to the mopes, either. The pain in my stomach continues, and I think I must have hurt myself in some way on last Thursday = c'est égal.¹⁸⁴ [...]

February 2[4th] Sunday. I'm perfectly vexed with myself for being so wanting in punctuality as not to have written for so long a time in my poor journal; I've no excuse; and this is what annoys me. Shall I make it up with myself, and say "I'll behave better for the future"?

Today William, D^r Hadley, Captain Deering & I started for Launceston; they three *exprès*¹⁸⁵ for the Races, I to go to Longford & see my good friends there.

We had a delightful day for our journey, the sun not being too hot; there was one stout old lady in the Coach with D^r Hadley & myself – and sometimes one, sometimes another of the rest of our party. At Campbell Town we met D^r & M^{rs} Dawson and Miss Donaldson¹⁸⁶ just coming from church; I delivered the parcel belonging to the former lady. When we reached Perth I left the Coach, and walked to M^{rs} Chiene's; I was so sadly tired that I fell fast asleep whilst she was

¹⁸¹ Mr Jacquier was Bessie's father. The *Maitland Mercury* on 2 Jan. 1850 reports news of an outbreak of cholera in England. For the "week ending September 8th", the deaths in London from cholera, were upward of 2000."

¹⁸² Samuel Lover, *Legends and Stories of Ireland* (London: Chiswick, 1834).

¹⁸³ John Mills, *The English Fireside, a Tale of the Past* (London: n.p., 1844).

¹⁸⁴ It's all the same (French).

¹⁸⁵ Especially (French).

¹⁸⁶ Not identified.

talking to me. She is looking so much better; has a “Temperance Frame” over the mantel-piece; and her little cottage will in time be very snug. ...

Friday 1st of March. On Monday I remained with M^{rs} Chiene; and on Tuesday morning I went into town by the Mail. Nobody came to meet me at the Coach Office, being too much taken up with themselves I presume; so I walked to the Cornwall alone.

About an hour after my arrival, D^r Hadley politely paid me a visit; Captain Deering, M^r Mercer & M^r Dry likewise.

How lonely I felt ~~today~~ this day to what I used when formerly here. Then I had the society of the man I so much loved – Yes! he was the only man I ever said I loved! And how I have blighted his life! and thrown away the true, disinterested, esteem; & fond oh! how fond love he bore & does bear me! How in the midst of all, & every, gaiety, he used to glide away, and pass every moment with me! how I can now recall his sweet voice saying, “You will be at home this evening, won’t you”? Yes, I did indeed miss him = & I shall not go to Launceston again; it’s charm is lost!

Well, I went with William to see “Swordsman” win; & was unfortunate enough to see him beaten for the first time in his life.¹⁸⁷ ... The Races were miserably attended, I thought; but others may have thought differently, as the company consisted of persons more in their line. ...

Yesterday morning I left at 10, with D^r & M^{rs} Brock, & I was in such miserable spirits all the way out; it was in vain M^r Brock chatted away, & tried to amuse me; the tears would stream down my cheeks! I feel too keenly = I never can wait to hear, before pronouncing sentence. ...

There was a letter from M^r Curll to William, telling him of poor little Joey’s death; my dear little companion! I shall miss him very much – with his pretty prattle; He was the first pet, of the kind; and he will be the last. [...]

March 8th Friday – Maria’s 33rd Birthday. M^r Davies & M^{rs} Lyttleton have gone into Launceston, and we start by this evening’s coach for Oatlands. I have been suffering very much ever since Sunday afternoon with an attack of Tic douloureux; it has been so wearying, that I really feel

¹⁸⁷ Champion Tasmanian racehorse once owned by Richard Dry, but sold July 1949 presumably to Thomas Todd Cooley.

quite ill and weak. They wish me very much to remain here some time longer, thinking that the change will do me good; but I agree with D^r Kilgour in thinking “Hobart Town may be better suited to my complaint”. Poor little man! he said yesterday he had never seen me look so ill. Notwithstanding which, we went to Entally, and very glad I was we did, for M^r & M^{rs} T. Reiby¹⁸⁸ are such nice persons; their cottage is very pretty - their grounds likewise, they are both goodlooking; and altogether “Entally” is quite a refreshing place to visit. We left soon after luncheon, and drove home as we had gone, accompanied by Rowley¹⁸⁹ on his poney, for whom I had asked a half-holiday.

On Wednesday we went to the College,¹⁹⁰ and I made M^r Windsor’s acquaintance;¹⁹¹ I was a little disappointed with his manner, having heard so much of him before, but he was very kind, and granted me a holiday for the Students. The College is a nice building enough, altho’ it should have been better I believe, considering the sum expended on it. The site is beautiful, only wanting water to make it perfect. The Western ranges at the back are so grand!¹⁹² & the day was peculiarly favorable to see them in. ...

I had the pleasure of receiving a note from D^r Hadley, altho’ my amour-propre¹⁹³ was a little touched when I found that he had forgotten to write to me until almost too late for the Post; This merely comes under the head of “Remembrance”. Miss Buckland too, kindly wrote me, (notwithstanding her numerous avocations) a nice letter. She amuses me by mentioning a party at

¹⁸⁸ Thomas Reibey (1821-1912) and his wife Catherine Macdonald, née Kyle. Thomas was the eldest son of Thomas Reibey (1796-1842), born at Entally House, Hadspen, VDL. He was educated at Trinity College, Oxford, and although he failed to earn a degree he was ordained by Bishop Francis Nixon in 1844. He and Margaret married in 1842 at Plymouth.

¹⁸⁹ Rowland Lyttelton Davies (b. 1837).

¹⁹⁰ Christ College, Bishopsbourne, near Cressy: Anglican college established October 1846, providing instruction in mathematics, classics and theology for young men after grammar school, operated until 1856 when financial difficulties forced its closure (Robson 391-93).

¹⁹¹ Samuel B. Windsor M.A. Christ College, Oxford, senior fellow of Christ College, arrived Bishopsbourne in 1847, appointed Warden July 1849, succeeded by P.V.M. Filleul in 1854.

¹⁹² The Western Tiers, picturesque mountain range which forms the northern and eastern border of the Central Plateau, rising to 1400 metres at its highest point. On the north-west the range presents a fault-formed scarp which overlooks the valley of the Macquarie River.

¹⁹³ Self-esteem (French).

M^{rs} Stevenson's,¹⁹⁴ at which the good folks were vulgarly called "carrying on" in great style. A musical party too at M^{rs} Despard's, at which she assisted, & which went off well.

I had letters from M^r Smith, from Hong-Kong; and from Miss Burnett, from George Town. The former writes in his usual affectionate, kind way; the latter in her usual style of lecturing, "forgiving", and being an injured individual! ...

March 14th Thursday. We left Longford last Friday evening, in M^{rs} Davies' carriage, and met the Coach at Perth: M^r & M^{rs} Frances,¹⁹⁵ and M^r Foster¹⁹⁶ were my fellow-passengers, as far as Oatlands – where M^r Dry, William & I remained the Night. ...

March 16th Saturday – We have had two such desperately hot days; yesterday was intolerably so; and I did not move out until nearly 5 o'clock. D^r Hadley & I rode round the Domain, and called at M^{rs} Booth's, whom we found looking very pretty. Her first enquiry was "Any news in town"? To which D^r Hadley replied, "Yes; Miss Sorell is to be married immediately to M^r Arnold". "Oh! I heard that long ago", said M^{rs} Booth. Now the proposal only took place on Monday morning before his leaving town, so that I fear the knowledge was merely a surmise.

It is true tho', that M^r Arnold is to be victimized if nobody comes sooner to the "relief"! She is determined certainly to get somebody to marry her; and no sooner sets one engagement aside, than she contracts another.¹⁹⁷

I recollect tho' being engaged to three persons at one time – Mess^{rs} Horton, Bodham & Cox! The first is now a Baronet; (and really, my heart beat a trifle, the other day when D^r Dawson mentioned him!) the second a Major in the Army, with an excellent private income, and George Cox, (whom I nearly killed with anxiety & love) is just married, and is come into his Father's large fortune! Et moi? here am I without almost a penny – and the only thing that I love & may own to, a dog! Such is my lot! such is the fate I've richly merited & received. After this, and more, much more! should I complain? ...

¹⁹⁴ Not identified.

¹⁹⁵ Not identified.

¹⁹⁶ Not identified.

¹⁹⁷ Thomas Arnold (1823-1900), son of Rev. Dr Thomas Arnold, one-time headmaster at Rugby School, England, arrived VDL from NZ in Jan. 1850 to take up the position of Inspector of Schools. In this role he was a tireless campaigner for greater government expenditure on education.

March 17th Sunday – St. Patrick's Day. I took the children to church this morning, & was disappointed in not hearing the Bishop preach.

D^r Hadley walked home with M^{rs} Curll & I; and Mess^{rs} Dry & Mercer came in to luncheon soon after. They have all gone with William to Cooley's = a good amusement for a Sunday afternoon. Smoking cigars, drinking ale, and I doubt not, making bets.¹⁹⁸

I am reading "Priests, Women, and Families" – by Michelet.¹⁹⁹ The work has caused a great stir in the world. One pretty little observation has come under my notice, and from it's truth, I introduce it here; "You know that love changes to itself whatever it loves;" remarks Morin,²⁰⁰ in his "thoughts".

M^{rs} Curll is in an interesting state again, & she is not the only one who feels so = altho' it is not very well to always make known these things.

March 20th Wednesday – ... Tomorrow Night the Amateurs kindly perform for the benefit of M^{rs} Eccleston. I am not going, altho' I had a ticket given me.²⁰¹

M^r Clarke sat with me this evening just before dinner; he has been to see M^{rs} Stanley down the River: She is gone in the *Emma* to Sydney; and from thence she proceeds to England in the *Rattlesnake* commanded by her brother-in-law, Captⁿ Stanley.²⁰² ...

March 21st Thursday – William wrote to M^r Baxter yesterday, and enclosed his letter in one to M^r Rutledge;²⁰³ it was a severe, but gentlemanly, one; and I only wish it may have some good effect.

...

¹⁹⁸ Establishment of Thomas Todd Cooley (1805-1886), former convict, arrived VDL 1830. Cooley's, a single-storey hotel, originally known as the Horse and Jockey, was extended in the 1860s. Cooley and the hotel had a long association with horse-racing in Tasmania. A hotel with the same name is still located on the site of the original which was demolished in the 1930s.

¹⁹⁹ Jules Michelet, *Priests, Women and Families*, Trans. C. Cocks. (London: Longman, Brown, Green & Longmans, 1845). This controversial book argued against celibacy for priests. It was very popular – there were three editions in three months and 50,000 copies sold.

²⁰⁰ Not identified.

²⁰¹ Mrs Eccleston, widow of Rev. James Eccleston, who had recently arrived in VDL to take up an appointment as rector and classics master at the newly established High School. Eccleston died, aged 32 years on the 8 Mar. after a short illness. In order to provide for his widow public subscriptions were sought. For the benefit the Amateur Society reprised the two act historical drama *Charles XII*, the "romance of real life *Box and Cox*" and the "much admired farce entitled *The Irish Tutor*" (*Courier* 20. Mar. 1850).

²⁰² The 139-ton brig *Emma* commanded by Captain Pockley sailed regularly between Sydney and Hobart Town. Unfortunately for Eliza Stanley, on arrival in Sydney she received news that her brother-in-law Owen Stanley had fallen ill and died on 13 Mar. After some delay the *Rattlesnake* with Eliza on board sailed for England on 2 May (Lubbock 271).

March 22nd Friday –After lessons this morning, (which by the way were rather tedious) I had a visit from D^r MacWharrie, who came to ask me if I would go for a ride this afternoon with him as he was doing D^r Hadley’s duty for him! He is certainly an amusing character, & to me, very estimable. M^{rs} Curll next came in and remained to have luncheon; Captain Pratt & M^r Johnston too; the latter kindly offered to ride with me – but I was pre-engaged; and he remained to luncheon. Miss Buckland came in, and during the meal, a person came to ask for M^{rs} Curll! I appeared astonished & delighted; said I had no idea that she was of as much consequence – in her establishment; and asked her if she was sure she had not brought away the keys of the Larder & storeroom?²⁰⁴ The rest of the party laughed; but nothing to what we all did afterwards, when she returned to the table & said “Oh! our large bedstead is come”! M^r Johnston could in no way contain his mirth! Some time after, she was saying to Miss Buckland “Were you not hungry after the Theatre last night”? “No, but very thirsty;” was the reply. “Oh! I did enjoy my basin of bread & milk so much; I was so hungry”; said M^{rs} Curll. I saw Miss Buckland put on her look of “why-does-she-say-such-things”? and I said very quietly “Well, I must confess that my enjoyments are more intellectual than those of large beds, and basins of bread & milk”! A fresh peal of laughter ensued. [...]

March 24th Sunday. And what have I learnt today? Why, only what I might have guessed before, that Andrew Clarke Esqr Royal Engineers – Private Secretary to his Excellency Sir W. Denison – is, when he chooses – (and which he did choose this evening to be) a great Bear! ...

Miss Buckland, Captⁿ Collinson (R.E.)²⁰⁵ & Deering, D^r Hadley; Mess^{rs} Clarke & Dry dined with us today – and this was the reason that I said M^r Clarke was a Bear; – for in the middle of Miss Buckland and my singing, he shouted out, in the most ill bred manner. I felt more vexed for my Visitor than myself, because my voice is never anything to speak of; but she has such a pretty one, and always sings so willingly.

²⁰³ William Rutledge (1806-1876), Port Fairy banker and businessman, arrived Sydney 1829, settled Port Fairy 1843. He established William Rutledge & Co. in partnership with Horace Flower. Rutledge and Flower in their capacity as local businessmen negotiated the deed of separation between AB and Baxter.

²⁰⁴ Keys were an “obvious emblem of female domestic authority” (Vickery 133).

²⁰⁵ Captain Collinson arrived VDL from NZ 23 Mar. 1850 and departed 16 May 1850.

I must for the future adhere to my purpose of not seeing the gentlemen after dinner. They are fonder of wine & filthy topics, than refinement.

March 25th Monday. Oh! I've had such a delightful surprise today, in a long letter from Robert Massie.²⁰⁶ I answered it before going to bed; and I hope he may come over in May, to see me again.

William dined at home, but went out directly after dinner, and returned about 10 o'clock, to find Burt out without leave. He was in a sad way! He had an appointment at M^r Clarke's, and at first he said he would not go until Birt returned; but he altered his mind, and left: and did not return until nearly 1 o'clock.

In the meantime, a man on horseback called, & as he seemed determined not to give me the important message he conveyed, I sent him down to M^r Clarke's. Up stairs I came again, and had just got into the pith of my story, when "ring!" went the door bell; and upon my asking from William's window "who was there"? a Constable said he wished ~~to wish~~ to speak to me; so down I went in dressing gown and slippers, and held a parley with the man. He had brought the key of Birt's [sic] room, which he found in his pocket – together with a pair of gloves, and a duplicate from some pawnbroker's. I was quite pleased at the man being in the Watchhouse; & placed there ~~wme~~ by any person but ourselves. After thanking the man for his civility, I went to bed; and soon after William came home.

March 27th Wednesday. Yesterday morning M^{rs} Curll & I drove into town, and I got the wools for Margaret.²⁰⁷ Likewise I bought a merino dress, which I sincerely wish I could make myself. [...]

March 29th Friday – I awoke in such tribulation in the middle of last night, from a dream I had; I thought I was sleeping in the same room with M^r Baxter, and I was washing my feet before getting into bed; I had writing materials on a chair before me, and a candle; & I was going to

²⁰⁶ Robert Massie, Commissioner of Crown Lands in the Macleay River District and New England for periods between 1842 and 1854, childhood acquaintance of AB, with whom she became romantically involved in 1842-1843 at Port Macquarie. The affair ended unhappily, probably after Baxter intervened, and at the time of her departure from the region in 1844 Massie had been decidedly cool towards her. AB lent him the journal volumes for 1841-1843 and he failed to return them before she left Yambuk. In 1850 he was stationed in Armidale, 300 miles (485 km) north of Sydney, where he was an active and prominent member of the community.

²⁰⁷ Margaret McLeod, daughter of Catherine McLeod (q.v) (see also entry 15 Feb. 1838).

write a note to M^r Massie. All at once I felt that horror creep over me that always did when he came near me; and upon looking up, I saw his dreadful look fixed on me! – “Who are you going to write to?” said he; “To M^r Massie,” I said quite fearlessly, as I used; – “Wretch”! was his ejaculation. “You are right now,” said I; “You have called me that until you have made me one”!²⁰⁸ My heart felt breaking when I awoke! Oh! I never shall be happy in this world – never!

1st of April – Monday – Yesterday we had our usual number of friends to dinner, viz: Mess^{rs} Dry, Clarke, G. FitzRoy,²⁰⁹ & Thompson;²¹⁰ D^r Hadley, and Captain Deering. Saturday too, Mess^{rs} Dry & Clarke dined with us. I’m not certain whether I have described the gentleman who is at present staying with us; but if I have not, I must here say that he is a most agreeable person, & I am very glad so nice & gentlemanly a man is in the house. ...

Captain & M^r FitzRoy called today; the former is much better looking than his brother, to my taste. ...

April 3rd Wednesday. We had a delightful party at the Mess last night, altho’ I did not enjoy myself, owing to a feeling of such intense fatigue and misery. There were a greater number of persons, and not nearly as choice as the first ones given by the 99th; I shall go to no more.

This morning Miss Buckland, Misses Schaw, Burgess & Scott called; M^r Thompson was here all the morning, so saw them. I do like him so much, & I think he likes me too, a little; He says when I smile, I am like an old friend of his; & not in the least like William.

He & I came home at ½ past 1 o’clock, & sat until 2, on the hall table, chatting about the party. W.C. did not come home until 4 o’clock this morning. ...

²⁰⁸ Above “made me one”, “incorrect again” is written, very faintly, in pencil in the same hand as the previous noted comments.

²⁰⁹ George FitzRoy, son of Charles Augustus FitzRoy (1796-1858), Governor of NSW (1845-51), and Governor-General of Australian colonies (1851-1855). George arrived in Australia with his father and acted as his Private Secretary. He was a passenger on the 44-gun H.M.S. *Maeander* which arrived in Hobart Town on 18 Mar. from Sydney. His brother Captain Augustus Charles Lennox, Aide-de-Camp, to Charles FitzRoy, Captain Wynyard, Assistant Military Secretary and Edward Deas Thomson, Colonial Secretary of NSW were also aboard the vessel.

²¹⁰ Josiah Thompson (1816-1890), chaplain of the *Maeander*.

A most absurd story was told me tonight of M^{rs} Curll; she is in an interesting state, and continually takes “fancies” into her head. One day she asks M^r Gaynor²¹¹ for ducks; another, she requests M^r Smith²¹² for his own peace of mind’ sake not to forget some walnuts; then she will go to M^{rs} Hortz’ and bring away grapes, etc – & the same here with jam & all kinds of things. But today she was walking to the flower show,²¹³ when she saw a little sucking pig, and immediately said she would “so like a piece of roast pig”! so a gentleman of a party went in and bought it, and had it cooked at Webb’s & sent up to her house for her dinner! The cause of all these whims is a mere shadow himself; only an idea left of him; very little reality, indeed, but he cares for nothing about it, so long as he has not to pay for any of the expense.

Miss Ross was at the Ball; she is a pretty girl, without having ladylike expression or manner: She talked away to D^r Hadley without the slightest introduction, and so far proved herself Colonial. She only heard of her brother’s death some few days ago, but she seemed very merry for all that; the same after her sister’s sudden death too!²¹⁴

On my return from riding, I received a long letter from M^r Baxter, written in most affectionate terms; he must surely be very wretched, when he condescends to solicit my return to Yambuck.

I may be, and am, singular in many respects, and this is one of the many = I never could, or would, subject myself for “filthy lucre”, to the endearments of a man whom I despise – & loath! And I have once more told him so.

April 4th Thursday – Another day has passed! Oh! all this day I’ve felt so unhappy; I cannot bear up against my melancholy forebodings any longer! – My very soul yearns for quiet and solitude.

²¹¹ Francis Seymour Gaynor was born 1824 in Ireland. He was a lieutenant of the 99th Foot and he married Amelia (1836-1860), eldest daughter of George Francis Huston, 15 May 1854.

²¹² Possibly Augustus Frederick Smith, lieutenant of the 99th Foot.

²¹³ The Autumn Exhibition of the Gardeners’ and Amateurs’ Floral Society was held in the Music Hall, Collins St.

²¹⁴ Laetitia Ross (b. 1832), sixth daughter of James Ross (1786-1838), educator, government printer, proprietor of *HTC* and publisher of *Hobart Town Almanack*, and his wife Susannah (née Smith). Her sister Lavinia (b. 1833) died 31 Dec. 1849. Brother unidentified. Laetitia married Augustus Frederick Smith of the 99th Foot, 5 Dec. 1850.

Little do people think that my “merry” face as they term it, is covered with tears so often: – how few could understand me! ~ ~ I’ll not dwell on these miseries.

This morning M^{rs} Curll came, and the Misses Sorell & she went with me to M^r Brown’s, where we had our faces beautified.²¹⁵ ...

M^r Thompson dined at Captⁿ Kay’s,²¹⁶ and came home with William at ½ past 9 o’clock.

I was alone this evening; and I must not expect to see D^r Hadley here until after the *Meander* sails, as he only comes here when he can go nowhere else! Rather complimentary!

Tomorrow Miss Sorell dines with us; and M^{rs} Chapman gives her Ball. M^{rs} Burgess gave a party tonight.

And now, it being past 12 o’clock, I shall retire to bed – and May God forgive me my sins! – [...]

April 6th Saturday. I called on M^{rs} Mason²¹⁷ this morning, and sat some little time. D^r Hadley came in at 12 to see W.C. about some money matter. Whilst we were at luncheon, M^{rs} Curll came in, and joined our party. Immediately after luncheon, we (M^r Thompson, D^r Hadley & I) rode up to “the Springs”; and returned in time for dinner at ½ past 6 o’clock. M^r Dry & D^r Hadley dined with us. W.C. left with M^r Dry; & I sat until late talking to M^r Thompson, whom I like very much. Indeed I do wish that I did not like him as well, as I shall miss him so much when he leaves.

April 7th Sunday. Oh! to say that I’m fatigued would be trifling! I’m in pain in mind & body! And I merely went to D^r Dawson’s this evening, to convince M^r Thompson that I am [not] so extremely obstinate as he seems to think. After coming home, W.C. went into town with D^r Hadley and Captain Wynyard; and we sat up until close upon 12 o’clock. I was so sorry to see M^r Thompson suffering, from what I but too often feel. He is such a winning, kind person, that I almost begin to think D^r Hadley was right when he said “Don’t fall in love with the Parson”! At all events, he is safe enough in the matter. ...

²¹⁵ Possibly premises of Thomas Browne, portraitist, 31 Macquarie St, Hobart Town (see entry 9 Nov. 1849); whether AB and her friends had make-up applied or a portrait taken is not clear.

²¹⁶ Presumably Joseph Henry Kay (see entry 7 July 1849), however Kay’s *ADB* entry indicates he did not become a captain until 1865.

²¹⁷ Abigail (née Welman), wife of Thomas Mason, Police Magistrate, New Norfolk.

How much I always feel anybody's kindness; and how sadly I feel the want of a person to be continually with & near me; to be to me a friend indeed. My life is such a blank; my existence so blighted; that I feel as tho' I were une de trop²¹⁸ in the world.

This evening I was vexed with Captain Wynyard for intending his remarks on scriptural subjects: it was such bad taste, especially with a clergyman in the room. I can joke on any other subject in the World, but religion; & this is too grave a matter altogether.

April 8th Monday. ... W.C. dined at M^r J. Dunn's²¹⁹ this evening, and M^r Thompson & I had a tête à tête dinner. I'm sure he must have felt it dull, altho' he amiably kept awake & chatting until very nearly 12 o'clock. He thinks me a queer creature I'm ~~certain~~ certain, for I feel so intimate with him upon so short an acquaintance. His face gives me the idea of a man of intense feeling; his mouth, in particular, is expressive; and I feel as tho', to him, I could confide, say all – I've so long wished (but been too proud) to tell. I shall be almost glad when he goes, for I do not wish to love anybody. How much he reminds me of poor Captⁿ O'Hara; and this in itself, is enough to make me like him. – I'm glad he's going soon. What unaccountable things occur in one's life.

April 9th Tuesday. I have promised to show the contents of this volume during the last fortnight, and so the ill must be excused, if there be any in it. I dare not look thro' it again, else I might feel inclined to break my word. I cannot write until tomorrow, as I feel that I may possibly place myself in the power of a man – which I never have yet done! – So, I shall write tomorrow, instead of tonight.

April 10th Wednesday – I might almost say, Thursday, as it is past midnight; and say what we will, there is something very "witching in the hour". I always feel more confiding – more fond – more inclined to love, as the day sinks! – Poor me! 'tis only inclination – and I may never indulge in reality.

But to return to every-day events. I showed my book, and I've not been reminded of its disagreeable contents; & only a little quizzed on the remainder. M^r Thompson has passed the whole of the day with me, with the exception of dining on board the *Maeander*; but so good then,

²¹⁸One too many (French).

²¹⁹ Presumably John Dunn (1790-1861), merchant and banker, or perhaps his son, also named John.

to leave at 10 o'clock. He is different to all that I've met here; he is not for continually running out, and remaining, but really seems to wish for my company; and this in itself is flattering: yet it may be his disposition to be quiet, altho' his mouth says differently.

I may say I never liked any one so much, on so short an acquaintance.

M^{rs} Curll came this morning, and I promised to take her to see the Races tomorrow. She is a queer little body; and asks me the most matronly questions; the answers to which I make a "flying leap" at! This is to be, at all events; when an heir is born to the house of Curll, I am to be requested as Godmama. She said to me "Why are you glad you have no children"? I turned the conversation, as she never would have understood my real reason, had I told her.

We went to the Races, and I saw "Swordsman" win very prettily, the Town Plate.²²⁰ He is a sweet horse, & in excellent condition. I was introduced to Captain Keppel,²²¹ and immediately asked him to remain here for the Government Ball; this, he assured me was out of his power; yet I fancied he meant to change his mind.

April 11th Thursday. Another night I've sat up so late, and yet our Guest is still in the Drawing room, instead of going to bed. ...

The *Maeander* is to remain here until this day week, and I am so glad of it! I shall go to the Ball now, which I had not intended doing. I think there were more persons on the Course today, than yesterday; and some of the races were very exciting. Mess^{rs} Gregson & Dry rode; & the former won the "Ladies Purse".²²²

I've been in some pain all day, & yet I sit here writing! W.C. dined with us, and then went out to ramble about. He leads a sad life.

D^r Hadley came in very early after dinner, & sat until after 10 o'clock. I was out of temper with him rather, and M^r Thompson said I was wrong, so I must be. It was about inviting

²²⁰ The New Town Races were held over three days (10-12Apr.); Thomas Cooley's horse Swordsmen won the Town Plate "cleverly in 6 minutes 9 seconds" (*Courier* 13 Apr.).

²²¹ Henry Keppel (1809-1904), commander of the *Maeander* 1847 -1851, soon to be embroiled in controversy in Sydney regarding a replacement commander for the *Rattlesnake* following the death of Owen Stanley, promoted to admiral in 1869 while Commander-in-Chief in China.

²²² The "Ladies Plate" was for "gentlemen riders." Gregson on Lady Lydia beat Dry riding Reefer by a length, "both appeared fatigued with the exertion they had been obliged to make" (*Courier* 13 Apr. 1850).

M^r Rose to the Mess, to dinner; & I still think he has a business to bring such men to his Mess, to associate with gentlemen. We differ. ...

April 14th Sunday morning. Positively my time has been so fully occupied, that I've scarcely any left for myself & Journal. When I think sometimes of the hours that we pass in sleep, I wish it were possible to devote some of them at least, to more useful purposes! then again, how queer we should feel without it; so I, like the rest of Mortals, must do f as they do.

On Friday we went to the Races, taking M^{rs} Curll with us; William drove, and M^r Thompson & I sat behind. The Course was famously attended, and his Excellency & Lady Denison were there: the former of these, presented the "Queen's Plate" to M^r Rose, on his beautiful Mare "Shadow" winning it, against poor "Swordsman". I was so sorry to see the pretty favorite lose again; but it convinces me more than ever, that the ideal is more to be feared than the reality – nine cases out of ten.²²³

William dined with us, and we went in the evening, to M^{rs} Burgess', where I enjoyed myself more than I have done for many a day, (or night, I should say!) and danced away with almost, pleasure. Captain Deering, M^r Thompson & I came home soon after Supper; and we two, of the house, sat up until past 3 o'clock.

Yesterday we had a most delightful Pic-Nic in Loring's paddock;²²⁴ there were 47 persons there, besides quantities of "blue jackets" belonging to the *Maeander*; and the Band of that Vessel too, which greatly added to the gaiety of the scene. The men had flat races, and a hurdle race; the gentlemen had a foot race too. Then there was singing from M^r Taafe,²²⁵ and Captain Twiss; and the latter told a very comical scotch story extremely well. He possesses a fund of anecdote & wit, and is really entertaining. The last part of the entertainment, was not by any means the least; we danced, *sur le gazon*.²²⁶ M^r Thompson actually ventured on the Polka! and

²²³ Shadow, owned by Alexander Rose (1804-1870) of Corra Linn (Lynn), defeated Swordsman by six lengths.

²²⁴ Not identified.

²²⁵ Presumably an officer of the *Maeander* or a member of the entourage from NSW.

²²⁶ On the lawn (French).

were it not that he says he never did commit such an act previously to this, I should say he was an adept in it. He turns round the wrong way beautifully; and this, in itself is a study. ...

William went off last evening to the “happy family”, and he has just come in. On dit, he passes the first part of the evening with the Mistresses, and the latter with their Maid! Such is the state of civilized society! The March of intellect, is far before that of Delicacy & Reason. I suppose tho’ ’twould not do for me to differ with men of the World, who have seen so much more than I have, or ever shall; (happily for me!) Yet I cannot in several ways, quite agree with them! I cannot imagine it *comme il faut*;²²⁷ for instance, to go and make love to the House of Lords & House of Commons, at one and the same time! (Altho’ in both by the way, ’tis mere speaking –) Then again, inviting all kinds of low persons to a Military Mess, where none but gentlemen are intended to go! Encore; they tell me that Hospitality is Barbarous; Modesty, – Prudery! I see, & hear these things; – and the iron enters my soul! I wonder at persons calling themselves civilized Christians can condescend to become equal to the “Brutes that perish”.²²⁸ – I’ll shut this up, or I cannot stay my pen.

Oh! I had such a delightful letter from M^r Massie; and how strange it seems, after so long getting over his penchant for my noble self, he, from one little word of M^r de Winton,²²⁹ rushes headlong into it again.

April 20th Saturday Night. Only a week has passed, and I’ve not written in this book! I must take up my story where I left off, and say that on Sunday last W.C. dined, *en déshabille*,²³⁰ at Government House; and then went with his Excellency & some other gentlemen down the Harbour, in the Steamer, to shoot.²³¹ I had Mess^{rs} Dry, Thompson, Clarke; D^r Hadley & Captain Deering to dine with me. They all left before Eleven.

²²⁷ Properly (French).

²²⁸ An English synonym to distinguish man from animal. The distinction is based on Christian teaching which assigns humans an immortal soul but does not “extend this dignity to the *brutes*” (Crabb 60).

²²⁹ George Jean de Winton (1824-1898), 99th Foot, arrived Hobart Town 1843 and 1848, 20 Mar. passenger, *Emma* for Sydney. AB had been friendly with de Winton and his wife Fanny (née Winder) in 1848.

²³⁰ Casually dressed (French).

²³¹ William departed with Denison and Deas Thompson on Monday for the Tasman Peninsula to inspect “works in progress, and also the forest of fine gum trees abounding in that quarter, some of which are to be prepared for the Admiralty.” They travelled on the government steamer *Kangaroo* and visited “Eagle Hawk

Monday was a very wet day, and we did not move out of doors.

Tuesday morning I got into a Cab with D^r Hadley & M^r Thompson, and we called on M^{rs} Dawson. We then went into town to shop; & then home.

In the evening I had some friends, and Captain Keppell kindly lent me 5 of his pretty band. They played so nicely, and the good folks seemed so contented, until nearly 3 o'clock, when they left. Poor William was not home.

On Wednesday morning M^r Thompson drove me to call on M^r Dawson, M^{rs} Burgess & into town. We met Captain Keppell, who had been calling on me, with M^r Taaffe. I had promised to give him a lesson in the Polka in the morning; & had quite forgotten it when the time came.

Oh! I had nearly forgotten to mention the very delightful Pic-Nic given by Captⁿ Keppell – the officers²³² of the *Maeander*. We went out at 2 o'clock to the Regatta ground, and there found numbers of persons collected; The Shed, commonly used for vegetables and such-like, was beautifully fitted out by the assistance of soldiers & Sailors; a most excellent collation was spread at the upper end of the room, & before dinner commenced, we stood up in a set of Quadrilles, played with considerable spirit. ... William did not return home until past Eight, on Wednesday night; just as I was going to dress for the Ball at Government House. Sir W. Denison & M^r Fleming came back in the morning: but the rest of their party, consisting of Mess^{rs} Deas Thompson & Denison; Captⁿ Wynyard & W.C. had to ride about 40 miles, thro' a disagreeable misty rain.

We started for Government House at a little before 10, and upon our arrival there, M^r Thompson in getting out of the carriage, fell back on the ground, and rent his garments! So he had to come home & get them repaired; but soon returned, and I was so glad to see his cheerful,

Neck and Slopen Island, but called at no other station on the Peninsula.” Bad weather forced Denison and the Attorney-General to return by land: they “came on to town on horseback and were lost in the bush” before reaching Sorell late at night. The remainder of the party “left the Sound early on Wednesday morning for Hobart Town” (*Courier* 20 Apr. 1850) .

²³² “[T]he officers” has been enclosed in parenthesis and “but not” has been written as superscript before “the” – all emendations are in pencil. The handwriting is the same as that of textual additions referred to in previous notes.

gentlemanly face in the throng. I danced a good deal during the evening; and our Guest danced with no one else.

The room is finished, and looks beautifully; the proportions are so good, and it was well lighted. I do'nt understand exactly why, but I never did, off the Stage, see Ladies legs to such perfection as in that room! The knees were nothing! = you might see far above them! and to do them justice, some of them had far from bad ones! – I remarked to D^r Dawson how very nicely M^{rs} Frazer's "frilled legs" looked; "like a little Bantam", said I. "Yes! but I can see as high of the little Bantam as where it sits," said he.²³³ ...

On Thursday we went out to see a sham fight; it was between the crew of the *Maeander*, and the 99th. Hobart Town turned out! The number of persons at the Races, was nothing to the crowd assembled in the Domain.²³⁴

M^r Thompson drove me there; & we went up to where D^r Dawson's Carriage was posted, took Peter out, & after remaining a short time in the carriage with M^{rs} Dawson, M^r Thompson & I walked over to the Point. He humoured me quite as much, if not more, than any person I ever knew; and is evidently fond of being with & near me. Poor fellow! he is gone – and we may never meet again; altho' he declared 'twas the only thing he looked forward to. ...

On Friday we had a ride round the Domain, and in the evening went to the Council Chamber, to a Ball given by Mess^{rs} Taaffe, Fitz-Roy, Blogham Maclean & Captain Fitz-Roy.²³⁵ It was a most agreeable party, and the two Bands attending, made it go off with spirit.

²³³ Lady Denison gave this ball "to about 250 of the *élite* of Hobart Town and its vicinity. The new ball-room, which is now completed, was tastefully fitted and well lighted. Dancing commenced at a little before ten, and was kept up with much spirit until past three a.m." The visitors from Sydney were among the guests and music was provided by the bands of the *HMS Maeander* and the 99th Foot (*Courier* 20 Apr. 1850).

²³⁴ The *Courier* 17 Apr. 1850 reports that a "series of military and naval operations, in imitation of the rougher fields of service, and illustrative of the stratagems and manoeuvres of attacking and defending forces, will take place (weather permitting) at half-past 1 o'clock p.m. in the Government Domain to-day. Her Majesty's 99th Regiment and the gallant seamen of the *H.M.S. Meander* [sic] will constitute the opposing forces, the programme embracing the dislodgement of the 99th from a temporary fortification which they will construct, by the *Meander's* [sic] men under cover of the guns, from the vessel. The two bands will be present." The *Courier* 20 Apr. 1850 includes a full report of this event which "came off on Thursday in the Government Domain [with] several thousand spectators being present." The military were victorious insofar as they achieved the retreat of the naval personnel. Proceedings concluded as "[t]hree cheers were given by the sailors, and three by the military, which were acknowledged by the guns of the vessel; after which the band of the 99th struck up the National Anthem, and the band of the *H.M.S. Meander* [sic] 'Rule Britannia.'"

I was tired; & it being the last night of the *Maeander* stay, I consented to come home soon after Supper, as my friend said “Oh! you don’t want to stay; so do come and talk”!!²³⁶

W.C. did not return until nearly 5 o’clock; and he was in bed when our fascinating & amiable Guest left us this morning. I never was so sorry to say “Au revoir”, to any one, as I was to him! I am become quite fond of seeing his mild face; & his kind eyes riveted on me.

He left at ½ past 10 o’clock, and he need not have done so until Midi, at the least...

I had a letter from M^r Flower²³⁷ this morning; in it he speaks of M^{rs} Connolly’s having left her husband; & people do say, eloped with M^r Molesworth Green!²³⁸ Poor little woman; everybody nearly will blame her – & nobody pity her. ...

April 21st Sunday. How I do miss M^r Thompson; & it is the first person whom I ever wished to remain, who could not! We rode out yesterday to see the Ship going out, and she looked so well! M^r Clarke who dined with us today, said “There was a glass on board, scarcely ever taken from the eye – and facing the direction of your house; poor Thompson! they say he is quite a different man from when he came here”!²³⁹ ...

I’ve begun “Roland Cashel”²⁴⁰ = & intend to devote myself to reading & work now. I don’t think I shall go to any more Balls. ...

April 22nd Monday. – I should almost say, Tuesday, for it is long past midnight.

²³⁵ The *CT* reports that this “splendid ball” hosted by Captain Keppel and his officers was given to a “large and brilliant company, in contemplation of the vessel leaving us the following day, ... and as a return for the almost universal attention paid to them by the officials and higher classes of private society in Hobart Town. The assembly was such as to give a fair and somewhat different view of social life in Van Diemen’s Land, to that which is the generally impressed idea of those who live at a distance from us.” The publication continues that the distinguished guests now “have ocular demonstration that the calumniated colony of Van Diemen’s Land can boast a society as pure and equally elevated in refinement and moral worth as that of any portion of the British dominions” (23 Apr. 1850). The *Courier*’s report of this event states that the ball was attended by one hundred and forty people; “Captain Hadden and Mrs Baxter” are noted as among the guests. Supper “held on the table used by members of the [Legislative] council [was] got up by Mr Webb in his usual style. Dancing was ... kept up until about five o’clock” (24 Apr. 1850).

²³⁶ In pencil above this paragraph is written “not quite correct as P. said do you not think we had better go home.” P. is shorthand for Pet, which was Josiah Thompson’s familiar name for AB.

²³⁷ Horace Flower (see entry 4 July 1849).

²³⁸ Molesworth Richard Greene (1827-1916), born Dublin, son of Port Phillip pioneer and established landowner Capt. William Pomeroy Greene. He held almost 10,000 acres (4047 hec.) at Bacchus Marsh. A member of the Melbourne Club, he married Emma, sister of Thomas Browne (q.v.) (de Serville, *Pounds* 300, 471).

²³⁹ Josiah Thompson gives an account of this in his Journal (ML 140): 1-2.

²⁴⁰ Charles Lever, *Roland Cashel* (London: Chapman & Hall, 1850).

The morning was spent by me in a most satisfactory manner, viz. with the children, and in work. ...D^r Hadley, Louis, and I went for a ride at ½ past 2, and the former & I looked at Glover's paintings.²⁴¹ Three of them are beautiful. ...

A very amusing anecdote took place at M^{rs} Burgess' the other evening; M^r H. Anstey²⁴² was sitting in an open window with M^{rs} Hall,²⁴³ and he commenced pinching her; whereupon she became indignant, and moved to the other side of the room. W.C. who saw this, upon meeting the gentleman next day in the street, told him he ought to be more careful where he sat, when he did such things! At first he started, & seemed ashamed; but afterwards, he burst out laughing, & said "Yes! was it not fun? "It's very strange tho'; before she married, she let me pinch her anywhere! But now, she will not let me touch her"! Colonial! ——

April 23rd Friday. W.C. slept at M^r Clarke's, and returned home this morning a little before 12 – D^{rs} Dawson & Hadley called; and after they left, W.C. drove me into town, & to call on M^{rs} Russell. She is the second daughter of Sir J. Jamieson; not actually pretty, yet having a youthful look, which is very pleasing. Laughs desperately; & grumbles wofully [sic] about the place.²⁴⁴ ...

M^r & M^{rs} Stewart²⁴⁵ & D^r MacWharrie dined with us; & after the rest had gone, the latter talked to me of what "people said", about M^r Thompson, D^r Hadley & I. 'Twas very amusing.

The wind is howling so loudly tonight; how I trust the *Maeander* is safe in Sydney! ...

April 24th Wednesday. In the morning I went into town to execute M^{rs} Chiene's commissions; and W.C. left me at Kisson's, to walk home.²⁴⁶ I was so tired when I got here, that I fairly cried with it.

²⁴¹ Colonial artist John Glover (b. 1767, arrived VDL 1831, d. 12 Sep. 1849). Robin Hood, gallery owner and framer of Liverpool Street presented "for public inspection free of all charge ... ten paintings by the hand of the deceased Artist" several of which were "peculiarly interesting, being devoted to the scenery of Van Diemen's Land" (CT 16 Apr. 1850).

²⁴² Henry Frampton Anstey (1822-1862), youngest son of Thomas Anstey, of Anstey Barton near Oatlands, educated at Longford Academy, appointed justice of the peace, in 1851 elected to the Legislative Council as the member for Oatlands.

²⁴³ Presumably Ellen Carr (née Spode), she had married Frederic Hall at St Mary's Church, Macquarie Plains, 6 Feb. 1850 (*Courier* 13 Feb. 1850).

²⁴⁴ Presumably AB is referring to Jane Rebecca, wife of William Russell of the 28th Regiment, who is described as the "second daughter of Sir John Jamison [1778-1844]" (*Sydney Gazette* 16 Mar. 1841), although another of Jamison's daughter Mary Elizabeth (b. 1826), married to Captain Frederick Browne Russell since 1842 was in Hobart Town in 1850.

²⁴⁵ Not identified.

I could not go for a ride, & was recompensed by receiving two long letters from Mess^{rs} Massie & Brown.²⁴⁷ The former is not coming here, he has not money enough to pay for the trip! He writes in a most amusing manner, & as he very truly says “tells me everything”. ...

Tom’s is a long letter; he narrates in long, and not very charitable terms, poor little M^{rs} Connolly’s down-fall! He seems to think that because the one sister has disgraced herself, the man is safe who has not married into the family! But he forgets that there is always one black sheep in a flock. ...

It appears that upon M^r Connolly’s seeing M^r Green close to M^{rs} Connolly’s bed-room window he accused her of too great an intimacy with the young gentleman – and she confessed it! It may be very wrong to confess these things; yet for my part, I admire her truthfulness. Mess^{rs} Rutledge & Baxter were indignant beyond measure; and ~~that~~ the latter declared “that if such men were allowed to go about the country, no one would be safe”! I suppose he thinks that nobody knows of his doings in this way! – ...

April 25th Thursday. W.C. left at 9 this morning; it has been such a stormy day, & the Mountain is covered with snow, which by the Moonlight just now, looks very beautiful.

D^r Hadley remained here all the afternoon, as it was too wet to venture out to ride; & he read “Roland Cashel” to me. ...

How much I do miss M^r Thompson[’s] kind face & voice! I shall be so glad to meet him again. I wonder if the *Maeander* is in Sydney, or about to sail for Auckland? ...

April 26th Friday. My first employment after “lessons” were over, was to pay Ellen a visit; she was in bed with a feverish attack, and unable to do anything for herself; so I made her some arrowroot. I said to her husband, “Well Hides, I don’t [think] she [will] die this time, and put you

²⁴⁶ A. & R. Kisson Importers, Murray St. Hobart Town. AB records on a number of occasions that she shops for people not living in Hobart Town.

²⁴⁷ Thomas Browne (q.v.).

to the expense of getting another wife to nurse baby”! To which he replied in the most grave manner, “I should never get so good a one again”! So much for love in a humble way!²⁴⁸ – ...

April 27th Saturday. We have an invitation to dine at M^r Frazer’s on Monday, which I have declined for myself; I said the weather was too uncertain to venture out at night, but positively it is my wish not to go anywhere. I shall not say anything about my not going to Government House on the 24th – else, so many would commence persuading me, etc – but I shall remain at home, and write. What a delightful thing it is to be able to communicate one’s thoughts & wishes to those afar! altho’ our feelings cannot be fully expressed at those times.

I dreamt of M^r Thompson last night; I thought he was angry with me = and justly so, if the waking acts be considered! ...

Just now a poor woman passed in the pelting rain, with her dress turned up, (to prevent, I suppose, it’s being spoiled,) and her petticoat thoroughly wet! It was such a picture of Misery! & I fancied myself in such a plight – and turned a grateful heart to my good Creator! We are told He cares for us all, tho’ we be very transgressing. Alas! it is my only hope. – [...]

May 2nd Thursday. W.C. slept at M^r Dry’s last night, & has sent me word he will do so tonight too. The Hounds threw off today at Richmond, the first day this Season.²⁴⁹ Everybody went; but I do’nt know if everybody came back, as I’ve seen Nobody to tell me. ...

M^{rs} Chiene wrote me such a comical note, and says she is thinking of getting M^r Baxter to sue for a Divorce; & wonders, when free, whether I shall marry the Chaplain or the Doctor? At all events, I don’t think a hunt, and hunt dinner, would have kept the former of these two from coming to see me! I wonder where he is now, nice, agreeable man that he is!

... Reading Dunallan, by Grace Kennedy.²⁵⁰ ...

²⁴⁸ On the voyage to England, AB recalls a dream about an injured Ellen Hyde (25 Apr. 1851, Frost, *Face* 146). In view of this the people mentioned are perhaps Ellen (née Quinn) and John Hyde. Their first child John was born in 1850.

²⁴⁹ The *Courier* 17 Apr. 1850 announced “Mr Sharland’s Hounds will meet at Richmond on Thursday 2nd of May, at 10 o’clock.”

²⁵⁰ Grace Kennedy, *Dunallan: or, Know What You Judge* (London: Hamilton, Adams, 1825). Kennedy was an Evangelical writer.

May 3rd Friday. I passed such a sleepless night; for I have such a sad sore on my face! ... M^r Sharland & his two boys came to luncheon; and the children remained until past nine, their Papa (who dined with D^r Hadley) coming for them, to go to the Ship Inn. ...

I've just answered the invitations to Government House, on the 24th inst.; W.C. goes, and I do not.

May 4th Saturday. William came home this morning, just as M^{rs} Dawson & the Misses Scott were coming in to see me. Miss Scott brought me a pretty scent bag, worked in floss silks;²⁵¹ and the figure of St Augustin on it.²⁵² 'Twas her Fillippa!²⁵³ They all walked into town, and soon after, M^{rs} Curll came in. She sat until D^r Hadley came, and then, (as he said he would open the carbuncle on my face,) she went off. She had a small shirt with her; and was anxious to know if those that she was about to make, would not do made of calico!²⁵⁴ Poor child! it would be scrubbed! ...

May 6th Monday. I did not go to church yesterday, and the poor children got into sad disgrace, & their Papa sent them both to bed.

My face was what D^r Hadley calls "just touched with a lancet"! and which is very painful & sickening. ... W.C. dined with M^r J. Burnett, to meet M^r Burnett and M^r Dry. D^r Hadley passed the evening with me, and was in such a queer humour! he is a gentlemanly, delightful person.

I had a chat with M^{rs} Agnew, who seems pretty well after her chloroform accouchement; her baby too, looks well = & is to have the beautiful name of "Florence Stuart".²⁵⁵ [...]

May 8th Wednesday. My morning was employed much as usual, until 12 o'clock; I then took Annie with me into the Drawing room, and we were working very busily when the Misses Sorell

²⁵¹ A small drawstring bag containing aromatic herbs, usually lavender, and in this case embroidered with untwisted silk fibre.

²⁵² St Augustine of Hippo (354-430), important and influential Christian intellectual, a prolific writer. His autobiographical *Confessions* is generally considered paradigmatic of this genre.

²⁵³ ? Fillip = trifle or a moment, stimulus or incentive (*OED*).

²⁵⁴ Inexpensive plain cotton fabric usually unbleached and often not fully processed. Fine linen or cambric was generally recommended for babies' shirts which were worn next to the skin much as babies wear singlets today.

²⁵⁵ Florence Stewart was the third child of James Wilson Agnew and his wife Louisa Mary, née Fraser.

came. W.C. came in soon after, and I never heard any person's language alter as his did, to these two ladies. Their's too, was perfect slang!

M^r Arnold was entreated by his friend Captⁿ Collinson, to postpone his marriage until his appointment was confirmed from home; he said "Very well, I will until the *Marmion* (expected daily) arrives; but after that I must get married – I can wait no longer"! — —

I hope he may never live to repent.

We hear such dis-agreeable things of the "old *Maeander*"; that she had such a bad trip up to Sydney; that she is ordered off to "Musquitoe ~~Coast~~ Shore"— and she is likely there, to see some fighting.²⁵⁶ ...

The good folks laugh at me for not going out this winter – and some are rash enough to say 'tis because M^r Thompson is not here! Perhaps they are not far wrong! W.C. has been at Captⁿ Twiss'; and D^r Hadley here. Ah! I shall truly feel leaving this, my best, & dearest, friend here. *May 10th Friday*. I yesterday morning wrote a long letter to Harriet by the *Adelaide*,²⁵⁷ and after lessons were over, William drove me into town; I, having previously, driven myself up to M^{rs} Dawson's and M^{rs} Frazer's – for the purpose of asking them all to come here in the evening.

Captain & M^{rs} Twiss, M^{rs} Ferriday,²⁵⁸ & M^r Bedford dined with us; and in the evening the Dawsons,— Misses Scott and Buckland, Miss Sorell, M^r F. K. Arnold, D^r Hadley, M^r Johnston; M^r & M^{rs} Frazer, Mess^{rs} Clarke & Akers; Captⁿ Collinson & M^r Dry, came. We were all enchanted with M^{rs} Ferriday's, singing. She has a splendid voice; sings with exquisite taste; and so very unaffectedly – it is quite delightful! She of course, could not be asked to commence the singing; so poor I – was the Victim! but I knew it was only *comme il faut*²⁵⁹ to do so, and "to it" I went.

²⁵⁶ Region on the Atlantic Coast of the present day Central American country of Nicaragua now known as the Mosquito Coast. It was a British protectorate in the nineteenth century with the approval of the local Miskito Indians. British involvement was disputed by Spain, the Central American Republics and the United States.

²⁵⁷ 350-ton brig, commanded by D.R. Comyn, arrived Hobart Town Feb. 1850 with a full cargo. The mail for London via this vessel closed at 4 p.m. on 8 May (*CT* 7 May 1850).

²⁵⁸ Susan Georgina Marianne (1810-1878), wife of John Ferriday (1813-1871) who was appointed Anglican clergyman at St Mary Magdalen Church, George Town in 1846. They arrived in VDL with their five children. Both were amateur artists and natural historians with an interest in algae.

²⁵⁹ Proper (French).

Her first song was that too-beautiful thing “In che accendi”,²⁶⁰ – the last time I heard it was from Pasta.²⁶¹

She sang so much all the evening – and she & Miss Buckland sang a duetto from “Norma”. I don’t consider the latter’s voice lost in the least by comparison; – the two are so totally different. I felt vexed very much at W.C. once during the evening; Miss Buckland was singing, and he said quite loud enough for everybody in the room to hear, “the great fault in her songs, is, that there are too many verses”. I cannot endure anything like vulgarity! ...

May 12th Sunday. ... My face has been so swollen & inflamed; and this evening D^r MacWharrie lanced it, rather too severely – for my beauty-sake! ... Had invitations for Wednesday & Thursday; The first to M^{rs} Twiss’; the latter to dinner at Government House; but I refused them both, as I have done for the 24th inst: I do not feel the least wish to go anywhere, now that the *Maeander* has left.

May 14th Tuesday. ... M^{rs} Curll came yesterday morning to see me, and was talking consummate trash about so many things; all, no doubt retailed from “Hennrey dear”! She ended by saying “Ah! well, we have to visit people here, that we would not look at in England”! “Yes, indeed;” I said feelingly; – thinking of my having heard that her father kept some shop in England. ...

No letters by the *Shamrock*, which came in on Saturday night.²⁶²

May 16th Thursday – Nothing particular has occurred to note here; I went for my ride, as usual, and desperately tired I was last night.

The Soirée musicale took place at M^{rs} Twiss’ last night; I did not go; and D^r Hadley dined with me, and passed the evening. I took (or pretended to take) it as a compliment; but I knew very well, it was only the distance that made him not go. ...

²⁶⁰ Presumably “Tu che Accendi questo core” from Giocchino Rossini’s two act opera *Tancredi* (1812-1813).

²⁶¹ Giuditta Pasta (1797-1865), Italian opera singer with an exceptional vocal range. She first performed in London in 1817, and in the 1820s and 1830s she performed regularly in London and Paris. In 1833 she performed the title-role in the Vincenzo Bellini’s 1831 opera *Norma* at the King’s Theatre in Haymarket (Warwick 509).

²⁶² The *Shamrock* which sailed regularly between Launceston, Melbourne and Sydney arrived in Launceston on 13 May. AB perhaps includes this report in response to an article in the *CT* published 14 May 1850 which reports a robbery perpetrated on Hobart Town solicitor, James Smith, as he was travelling on the Grass Tree Hill Road between Richmond and Risdon. Smith was reportedly en route to Launceston where he intended to go by the *Shamrock* to Melbourne.

May 18th Saturday. On Thursday the party took place at Government House, and W.C. dined there. M^r Dry, who does not visit there, remained and read to me until ½ past Eleven = he came early, and brought his own book – a most interesting one, i.e. “the Memoirs of Ferdinand & Isabella, of Spain”.²⁶³

Yesterday morning D^r Dawson sat some time with me, and vainly endeavoured to get me to go up to his house at ½ past 6, and eat Quail pie! I feel no wish to go to any place; I am thoroughly ill at heart. He had scarcely left when I despatched Jane with the children in a Cab, to M^{rs} Twiss’ – there to spend the day. They were just gone, when in came Misses Scott, M. Walker, and Fanny Richardson;²⁶⁴ and again tried to get me to go up to M^{rs} Dawson’s.

M^{rs} Frazer sat some time with me; and said she thought the reason why I did not go to her house, was, that some persons were there, whom I did not wish to meet! The idea of such a thing to me, was ridiculous! but I recollected how she imagined the affair = it was because W.C. said before Miss M. Scott, “he was glad he had not been there, on account of meeting those vulgar persons, the Allports”! And she must have repeated it to M^{rs} Frazer.

I received by post, a delightful letter from M^r Thompson, and several kind remembrances; a pretty book entitled “Wild Flowers”,²⁶⁵ two pairs of cuffs; a queer handkerchief; & 1 dozen pairs of silk gloves.

The *Maeander* did not remain any time in Sydney; & was unfortunate enough to lose a man overboard going from this.²⁶⁶ [...]

May 21st Tuesday. D^r Dawson paid me a long visit this morning; & amused me by saying he had made up his mind not to go to the Theatre tomorrow night! He says he quite envies me making a

²⁶³ Presumably William Hickling Prescott, *History of the Reign of Ferdinand and Isabella the Catholic of Spain*, 3 vols. (5th ed. London: Bentley, 1849).

²⁶⁴ Fanny Richardson (b. 1837), only daughter of Dr William Richardson (c. 1795-1863) and Elizabeth Reeves, née Worsley (1806-1851). Fanny with her parents and three brothers arrived in Hobart Town in 1848.

²⁶⁵ Not identified.

²⁶⁶ The *Maeander* anchored in Farm Cove, Sydney on 26 April, and left at daylight on Friday 2 May for Norfolk Island.

resolve not to²⁶⁷ go out at night; & keeping it. I'm only glad there is no chance of the *Maeander* coming back; or alas! for my resolution.

M^r Dry read for about two hours today, & I'm getting very interested in the book. ... W.C. dined at Mess; D^r Hadley came for ½ an hour in the evening. I'm more glad than ever to see him now; he appears my only friend here. I'm very tired tonight. [...]

May 23rd Thursday. At 7 o'clock précisément, W.C. left his home, to join the chase;²⁶⁸ he went up in his Excellency's Suite, and dined With M^r Clark = so I presume, he remains there tonight.

I had the whole morning to work; & M^r Dry not having received his message, (or rather mine,) did not come until ½ past 1 – when I was ready to go and make Calls. He did not therefore remain, and I went up to M^{rs} White's;²⁶⁹ then took up Miss M. Scott & brought her with me to M^{rs} Frazer', M^{rs} Stonor's, M^{rs} Russell's – Government House – and to M^{rs} Richardson'. The latter was at home, and more chatty than I ever saw her.

We next returned for M^{rs} Curll & the children, whom I drove to the Barracks, and then sent the Carriage home again. We wended our way towards the Band – which was playing on the grass; we however, saw the Colonel on the Flag Staff, and so we went up there too; & were soon followed by some man with two of D^r Hadley's chairs.

After sitting there a short time, the Colonel said he thought it was very cold, & would have the Band down near the Verandah. – Off moved the "Masse"; & we then sat in the Verandah; and cake was handed round.

M^{rs} John Fereday was devotedly attended by the Col: and all the "great folks" sat on one side of the door leading into the Mess room, whilst we, smaller folks, stayed on the other! ...

My head ached so violently all the evening; and does so still considerably. D^r Hadley wrote me such a kind little note; and early in the evening came to sit with me. And now I'm going to take coffee & morphine.

²⁶⁷ Superscript in original.

²⁶⁸ Mr Sharland's hounds met "Thursday forenoon, at 10 o'clock at Richmond" (*Courier* 18 May 1850).

²⁶⁹ Not identified.

/ It is just 2 o'clock, and as sleep will not come to me, I shall try & wear out my pain by writing for a time. ... Jane got up for me, and brought me some wood for my fire; and a lemon to make me something to quench my thirst: = she did not wish to leave me; more especially, when I told her I had seen William on horseback just now; and she thinks I'm crazy! But I'm not, thank God! I fear myself sometimes that I may be – & this is one of the causes of my melancholy. Melancholy! how M^r Booth would smile at my being so! –

Oh! for one hour of Yesabba and its old & pure misery – yet happiness! how my life since then has been wasted! Yet I have done more good than a weak, erring, soul like myself might get credit for doing – God alone knows, and will ever know, all my thoughts, & ways, and works! and may he judge me with his Mercy. Well; I shall go to bed, and read.

May 24th Friday = and her Majesty's Birthday. All the World is gone to Government House;²⁷⁰ and I should have done so too, had it not been for D^r Hadley. Whenever I go to any party, and he is there, he pretends to be tired, and gets me to come away; but if I'm not there, he invariably remains until the last. So I have determined not to go to any more parties where he is. [...]

May 27th Monday. I was too ill to go to Church yesterday; and I could not even write. The children went for a walk with Jane in the afternoon. William came in from M^r Dry's, just as we were at luncheon, but took none; he was off to M^{rs} Roberts'. ...

M^{rs} Stonor told William, that M^{rs} Frazer was carrying on an intrigue with M^r Gaynor; & thro' her means principally. The diabolical, little treacherous creature! to betray her friend to a comparative stranger! And the principal (?) person concerned – what can we say to her! She always seems so fond of her husband; says she is miserable when "Gordon" is away! and regrets having promised to go to Sydney, as she now must do so! Deceitfulness, certainly is always to be blamed; why appear fond, if she be not? Our affections are not in our own gift; = but Truth and sincerity, are!

Miss Buckland has sent me in my slippers, and they are very pretty.

I have been marking Shirts & handkerchiefs for W.C. – and it is past 12 – ...

²⁷⁰ The annual Queen's Birthday Ball was held at Government House in the finally completed ball room and attended by 300-400 people.

May [28th Tuesday] Miss Buckland sat with me today for a while; she is looking ill, & suffering from rheumatism – I think in the form of gout.

M^{rs} Curll too, paid me a visit, and told me so gravely that she had been busy “sewing”! I asked her what? And she said “Oh! baby’s clothes; but I’ve only cut one night gown out yet”!

I told her to be more careful for the future, what she said to M^r Arnold on his Intended; – as they were both sadly vexed at her recommending M^r Arnold to buy a small set of tea cups, in anticipation! She said she could not alter her conversation; so if people became huffed, why they must, & that was all!

I’ve not seen M^r Dry today, which I miss. Yesterday he was reading to me before I walked to Miss A. Sorell’s; & upon finishing the Vol: he said to Annie, “Is it not a pretty story”? “Oh! yes”; said Pussy. “Shall I read it to you again”? “Oh! no; I’m so glad you’ve done, for Aunt Annie never talks, only listens to you”!

Miss Sorell asked her the other day, whom she loved best in the World. – “Aunt Annie”; she said. “What! better than Papa”? “Yes, a good deal; for I’ve known him longer”! This is so characteristic of the poor child, that I insert it. [...]

1st of June – Saturday. Immediately after breakfast, I sallied forth into town to do a little shopping; and returned very fagged at nearly 12 o’clock. There sat M^r Dry, like “Patience on a Monument”,²⁷¹ waiting for me to read to. Walterson²⁷² was here too; and I’ve given him “the Gambler’s wife”²⁷³ to copy for me.

M^r Dry read until luncheon; he had some soup with us, and then left – but returned at 4 o’clock, & read until Six; with the exception of a few minutes that M^r & M^{rs} Curll, & M^r Smith were here. ...

This is the Anniversary of Grandpappa’ & Papa’s deaths. How differently I might have been situated, had they lived until now. [...]

²⁷¹ A reference to William Shakespeare’s *Twelfth Night* (2.4. 114-15): “She sat like patience on a monument/ Smiling at grief.” Reference to the allegorical figure of Patience, which often adorned tombstones in the Renaissance era, implies that Dry sat stiffly and without emotion or expression.

²⁷² Not identified.

²⁷³ Popular broadside ballad.

June 7th Friday. Nothing very particular occurred beyond the usual routine of every-day life! M^r Dry read to me for an hour in the morning, and he left as D^r Hadley came in. ...

William received a letter from M^r Rutledge in which he says M^r Baxter is so ill with rheumatism, as to be obliged to go to Sydney for the Winter. And this explains his great wish to have me with him again! 'Twas to nurse him. The mean creature refuses to pay us the £40. ...

June 8th Saturday. How very fast this week has gone! It really appears to me that Sunday was only yesterday.

Today has been rainy, and I only moved out once, to go and see poor Miss Buckland, who is much worse today.

M^r Dry has been here three times; once before luncheon; once in the afternoon; & dined with us. W.C., who has taken to grumbling of late at everything, and about everything, in his own house – began at dinner about some herb in a hash; and so I gave him a good retort. ...

June 10th Monday. ... I have been sitting with Miss Buckland this evening, from Five until 7 o'clock. She is very ill, poor thing! and very helpless. I have promised to sit up with her tomorrow night. M^r Clarke made his usual call. William M^r Dry & he, are gone out tonight to Captain Twiss'. Alone this evening, and very lazy.

June 14th Friday. And positively the very auspicious day, the wedding-day of the fair & frail Julia, was not noted! I fear I am very forgetful of the *étiquette* of my — oh! I cannot recollect what it was I intended saying; so I must return to the “starting post”.

On Tuesday Night I sat up with Miss Buckland, and returned home at 7 o'clock on the following morning. I remained the whole time working & reading – and little thought how much I should suffer for it afterwards.

All Wednesday I really looked & felt ill. Yesterday morning at 10 o'clock, Marianne & I sallied forth to St David's, to witness the Nuptials of M^r Arnold with Miss Sorell. I was of M^r C. Wilmott's opinion – that unless I saw it, I could not believe it.

We went up into the Organ loft, and were congratulating ourselves on being so alone, when in walked M^{rs} Curll & all the family of Jews, i.e. Hertz & Cobens!²⁷⁴ Poor Marianne! she said so quaintly “I would give £20 gladly, to be out of this pew”! “I will go home! I hate coming in contact with such persons”. I agreed with her in all she said; excepting about the £20; – which I said, I would rather keep, myself.

A few minutes before Eleven, in walked Mess^{rs} Arnold & Clarke; the latter looking very well. The people began to come in quickly to the upper pews; and at last, a goodly few were collected. But to my amazement, in came “Mad Paddy”!²⁷⁵ Poor soul! he was so cleanly dressed, with his hair so smooth, and looking so orderly. I expected him to call out, & would not have let him see me for the world.

At 11 precisely, in came the wedding party, consisting of the three Misses Sorell & M^{rs} Jones; Three Mess^{rs} Sorell, A.Kemp, Captⁿ Hadden, & M^r E. Bedford. The latter’s father had the honor of performing the Ceremony.

The Bride & her sisters were dressed in white muslin, Chip & straw bonnets;²⁷⁶ – but looked very cold, having no shawls, or any kind of out-door covering. (I was told by Miss Burgess, that they had on “Booke muslin²⁷⁷ dresses, with nothing else, so they looked cold”!)

The awful ceremony took place; & they are now “One flesh”. May they be happy. ... *June 15th Saturday.* ... D^{rs} Hadley & MacWharrie sat for some hours here today; & the former went round with me to Miss Buckland’s at 5 o’clock, where I sat until Seven. ...

When I returned home, I found a letter from dear Hal, in which she seems to think we ought to start for England immediately. It’s contents made my heart beat; & my eyes²⁷⁸ stream with tears! Oh! I do’nt know how I shall ever leave this part of the Globe! [...]

²⁷⁴ Neither Hertz nor Cobens are identified.

²⁷⁵ Not identified.

²⁷⁶ Nineteenth-century milliners used thin strips of shaved wood as a base material for head wear. The product was sometimes called chip straw and resembled traditional straw. Once shaped, it could be bleached or coloured and trimmed as desired with lace, velvet, silk or feathers. Bonnets made of chip or straw were deemed most appropriate for morning wear. Thomas Arnold in a letter to his mother describes the bonnet as “white ... with a small feather and white lace veil” (Bertram 185).

²⁷⁷ Book muslin, a fine delicately woven cotton fabric, favoured for evening dress in the mid-nineteenth century. Arnold describes Julia’s attire as a “white hook muslin dress over muslin, high to the throat, with two deep flounces; – a white lace mantle, [both] richly trimmed with lace” (Bertram 185). His description suggests a less flimsy affair than AB’s description intimates.

June 19th Wednesday. ... Tomorrow is Louis's birthday. Eight years old. My letter to Marion went yesterday.

Eh! bien; I went to bed on the 20th night of June; and I get up at ½ past 2 o'clock on the morning of the 21st, as I cannot sleep. D^r MacWharrie says truly that I overrate my Strength, and ride too far, when I do go out. And so it was yesterday. I felt much better, & said I would go for a short ride; but upon meeting D^r & M^{rs} Dawson, Misses Scott, Burgess & Allport, D^r Hadley immediately rode to M^{rs} Dawson's side, and with the exception of two or three minutes in the Domain, I did not see him again until we stopped at the Orphan School;²⁷⁹ I wished to turn back then, but did not like to deprive him of his agreeable society; so, like a simpleton, I cantered on to O'Brien's Bridge,²⁸⁰ & have knocked myself up.

D^r MacWharrie dined with us; and William went without any, as the beef was underdone. Poor fellow! I know why it is he is so ill-tempered; on account of his leaving! But if he could only think how much I too grieve about it, he would be more considerate in his behaviour.

Crockford's²⁸¹ likeness came home tonight, & it is nicely framed. Dear old horse! the sight of him reminds me of "Departed joys" indeed. Oh! I would give a great deal to be now, what I then was! So full of spirit; so buoyant; so comparatively speaking, happy myself – and never failing to make everyone else so around me. The very title they gave me of "Charity" – was changed in four short years, to that of "Endurance". God has seen fit to punish me, and deservedly no doubt; my sins have been many, and grievous – and I have been smitten with Misery, where I of all persons, should feel it – in my home! So fond as I am of the word, and have none! When I see others happy, it goes to my heart, to think of what I might have been, and what I am.

²⁷⁸ Superscript in original.

²⁷⁹ John Lee Archer designed building constructed in the early 1830s at New Town, chiefly to provide accommodation and education for orphaned and destitute children. In the late 1840s, 500 convict and orphaned children lived in overcrowded and austere conditions (Brown, *Poverty* 70-72).

²⁸⁰ A small settlement 5 miles (8 km) from Hobart Town from which the present city of Glenorchy developed.

²⁸¹ Crockford was a horse which belonged to Robert Massie in the 1840s.

And let me return to things as they are in the world of Hobart Town. On our return from riding, we saw the Bride at her window; her father & sisters were passing the day with her, as it was her Birthday too.

Louis had some small friends to pass the afternoon with him; & I had to go & do Band for them, whilst they danced. W.C. took them home, & walked with Eliza up to her Aunt's, where he remained until 11 o'clock, when he came to say Good Night to me, & then went off.

I've begun Cooper's "Pathfinder";²⁸² a work I never before heard of, altho' old. And now I shall take it into bed, and read away until sleep overtakes me.

June 22nd Saturday. Yesterday I was too ill to ride. Mess^{rs} Johnston, Dry & de Winton called. D^r Hadley came twice; & in the afternoon read to me. W.C. & he dined with M^r Fleming, together with ten other gentlemen. Today the Hounds threw off at "South Arm"; & the gentlemen went down the River at 8 o'clock in the Steamer; & came home (to Hobart Town) about that hour this evening.²⁸³ I've not seen any of them, but D^r Hadley sent to ask how I was.

M^{rs} Curll paid me a long visit this morning; she is a queer little Mortal. She has positively already bespoken her Nurse, altho' she will not require her services until October!²⁸⁴ ...

June 24th Monday – I went to Church yesterday morning and took both children. D^r Hadley met us at the Barrack gate, and walked home with us; & M^r Akers likewise. William had returned from M^r Clarke's where he slept; & was in a violent passion, (as usual) this time it was with Edward²⁸⁵ – who was ill in bed.

The poor fellow returned in the morning with the Mare, and also with a bad pain; – which I cured by giving him 45 drops of laudanum in some Castor Oil.²⁸⁶ so the fact was, the man could not answer questions, & was consequently thought impertinent! ...

²⁸² James Fenimore Cooper, *The Pathfinder* (n.p.: Blackie, 1840).

²⁸³ The *Courier* 19 June 1850 includes a note that "Mr Sharland's hounds will meet next Saturday at South Arm. For general convenience the steamer will leave the wharf at seven o'clock in the morning."

²⁸⁴ Colonial diarist Mary Morton Allport was visited by her midwife fortnightly from 19 Oct. 1832 until her daughter's birth on 26 Dec. (Richardson, "An Annotated" 1: 84-88). Mrs Curll gave birth to her daughter in late December.

²⁸⁵ Servant in the Hadden household.

²⁸⁶ This mixture was used to treat diarrhoea. While laudanum worked to calm irritation, castor oil acted as a purgative.

June 29th Saturday. On Thursday M^{rs} Smith gave her Soirée, which I understand did not go off very well. On dit, the people preferred sitting still, to dancing. I did not go. The first who arrived were Misses Seccombe & Kemp; next came the two Misses Sorell, – so they did not entertain each other – only gazed! M^r & M^{rs} Roberts went next, and bowed to all, but spoke to none! And then M^r Morton & Miss Allport; the latter of whom walked up to shake hands with M^{rs} Roberts, who politely withdrew her's. Après cela, tous le monde arrivée.²⁸⁷ M^{rs} H. Kay looked, I'm told, as tho' she had eaten too much; so very heavy. Major Last went in full uniform; and Captⁿ Deering & M^r Johnston went in plain clothes, as it was only a small Dance. The “old man gentleman” felt aggrieved, and reported the two to Col: Despard C.B! who has ordered a Mess meeting for Tuesday next. What a bore to have such a man in a Regiment. ...

On Friday the Mountains all around this pretty town, were covered with snow: & altho' it was a miserable day, continually snowing & raining, still I rather rejoiced in it; not having seen snow on the ground near me, since I left old England.

M^r Dry dined with us; and in the evening, we had the pleasure of seeing old Bates “off”; & a new Servant (Ignatius Delaney, no less!) come.²⁸⁸ ...

The Hunters had a splendid day at Bagdad, what with the weather, & Champagne luncheon, given by M^r Tooth.²⁸⁹ Men in this respect, are so different to our Sex; after the first Youth is passed with them – they live but in eating and drinking! their whole soul seems wrapped up in a beef-steak pudding – Champagne – or even to devil'd bones!

Yesterday afternoon, D^r Hadley & I called on M^{rs} F. Smith, and sat there a long time. We afterwards walked down with M^r Ludlow Smith²⁹⁰ as far as the corner of Harrington Street; & after leaving him, went on to St Mary's Hospital, where D^r Hadley left me to take a Bath – but I was disappointed in this, and had to walk home by myself to as far as the Barracks, where I met

²⁸⁷ After that all the world arrived (French).

²⁸⁸ Neither Bates nor Ignatius Delaney can be identified.

²⁸⁹ Edwin Tooth (1822-1858), pastoralist, merchant and brewer, son of brewer Robert Tooth (b. 1799), arrived NSW 1843, lived at Oakwood, Bagdad, 20 miles (32 km) from Hobart Town and on the main road to Launceston.

²⁹⁰ Ludlow Smith was the son of Capt. Frederick Smith, Postmaster-General of VDL 1840-1857. Ludlow was presumably a member of the 99th Foot. He died at Lucknow in 1857.

Mess^{rs} Macdonald²⁹¹ & Smith, who accompanied me home. I do so much admire M^r Macdonald; he is one of the finest specimens of a man, I ever saw! And he seems so amiable. ...

Finished “the Caxtons”; The story is pretty, but not told in Bulwer’s usual happy style.²⁹²

I have only ridden once since Wednesday week; and in consequence, feel quite ill.

Yesterday William drove me out to call on M^{rs} Arnold, who received me with a kiss! to my most thorough amazement. She looks very well; and seems snug, in her new domicile. [...]

July 5th Friday. Last evening M^r Hathaway gave a large party in honor of the American Independance, and his eldest girl’s 12th Birthday.²⁹³ William & Louis were invited; but the former had taken Miss Buckland up to New Norfolk, where they hunt today; (not Miss B—) so Louis went with M^r & M^{rs} Buckland, and I sent for him at ½ past 9 o’clock.

Yesterday I went up to see M^{rs} Pratt, and sat there looking at the regiment being drilled by Major Last. When Parade was over, D^r Hadley & I walked into town with Captain Deering and M^r Johnston; both of whom were in great glee at the old Major’s stupidity in his drilling. Captⁿ Deering said “I’ve had my revenge; Oh! that I should live to this day, to see the Regiment put into such a straight”! ...

Two new numbers of “Punch” came today; and in one is a beautiful sketch of “Pin money”; and “Needle money”. The former is a handsome girl sitting at her toilette table with a servant brushing her hair; and all kinds of jewelry before her; & the latter is the picture of a poor wan, pale, woman, sewing by a miserable light = and her hands and face such poverty! It is a very beautiful idea; & wonderfully shown forth in only a paltry print.²⁹⁴

And now to bed. [...]

July 11th Thursday. I’ve been very ill ever since Sunday, altho’ I only kept my room one day.

²⁹¹ Not identified.

²⁹² Edward Bulwer Lytton, *The Caxtons: A Family Picture*, 3 vols (London: Blackwood, 1849).

²⁹³ Elisha Hathaway Junior, appointed United States Consul for VDL in 1844, father of Sarah, George and Freddy (Richardson, “An Annotated” 2: 36).

²⁹⁴ First published in 1841, *Punch* was an English periodical noted for its satiric humour, cartoons and caricatures and as in this case social commentary. AB had likely received her issue with the arrival of the 320-ton *Eliza* on 29 June 1850.

On Tuesday, Mess^{rs} Boyd²⁹⁵ & E. Bedford – & D^r MacWharrie dined here; I was up stairs, so only saw the latter of the three. D^r Hadley came at 1 o'clock, as usual; & finding me ill, sat with me until 4 – he came again in the evening, but late; as it was Mess Night. 'Twould be all the better, if he could be away from that Mess! His Portrait came from Dowling's;²⁹⁶ but it is so very sickly looking, that I shall make him alter it. The Frame in which it is, is of Musk wood²⁹⁷ = and very handsome. The Picture should have been good, because he has such nice features.

Yesterday I had "Shirley" to read in the morning, and I sent home the first Volume this morning;²⁹⁸ and in the Evening I had two far greater "treats;" D^r Hadley came early, & passed a long Evening with me; & we looked over Glover's "Sketch Book". There are, in truth, some Gems in this; & I consider £10 – well given for such a bijoux.²⁹⁹ ...

I have two long letters to go by the *Eliza*;³⁰⁰ one to dearest Hal; the other to M^r Thompson. Tomorrow, I must see about my Sydney and Port Phillip correspondents. ...
July 13th Saturday. ... M^r Dry & D^r Hadley dined here. W.C. went out at 10 o'clock, and I did not see him until today at about 3 o'clock; D^r & M^{rs} Dawson & Miss Scott called then just as D^r Hadley & I were going for our ride. We had a long chat on the subject of the worsted waistcoat, which is said to be valued at £30! – and D^r Dawson says it has taken at present, 700 hours to work it! It is to be finished to send by M^r Dry. The Pillow was shown; and M^{rs} Dawson found out several uneven stitches in it's really beautiful work. She is so jealous of any one's doing aught well in this way, but herself. ...

²⁹⁵ Not identified.

²⁹⁶ William Paul Dowling (1824-1877), artist, engraver and photographer, arrived VDL Nov. 1849 as a political prisoner, and established himself as a portrait painter in premises at 9 Liverpool St. on 1 Jan. 1850.

²⁹⁷ Likely to be timber from *Olearia argyrophylla*, an understorey rainforest species found in south-eastern Australia, popular and prized for furniture and frame-making in the nineteenth century. The timber of the West Indian species *Meliaceae Guara trichiloides* and *Trichilia moschate* are also commonly known as musk-wood.

²⁹⁸ Charlotte Bronte, *Shirley: A Tale*, 3 vols (London: Smith, Elder and Co., 1849).

²⁹⁹ Throughout his long career artist John Glover kept sketch books which functioned as "visual diaries with a coherent chronology, showing where [he] went and what he did each day." Glover kept this collection intact and made provision in his will for the sketch books to be divided among his three surviving sons (Staples 247-48). Following his death in 1849 the books passed to the sons but the collection was dispersed. James Gear acquired one on Hadley's behalf for £10. Gear admitted that the price was high "but well worth the money in [his] estimate." The volume had "upwards of 300 sketches some of them perfect gems" (qtd. in Staples 264).

³⁰⁰ Departed 26 July for London, mails had closed on the 20 July.

Finished “Shirley”; & think it well worth reading. They may say what they like respecting a few of the Conversations therein; I maintain they are true, altho’ one would not wish them published! [...]

July 16th Tuesday. Annie came & sat with me at her lessons this morning, whilst I worked; and as it was in my own room, I did a good deal. ...

I heard today of Captain Keppell’s being upset out of a Whale boat at Norfolk Island and saved by a Prisoner.³⁰¹ ...

July 18th Thursday. Yesterday, let me see; I had a nice canter with D^r Hadley round the Domain; We were both in good humour! – strange for me, for I am always feeling vexed with him; about trifles, too; but he is very amiable. I went to Dowling’s about the alteration in his likeness; & left the smaller one there. He kindly came in the evening, and sat with me.

I have been so terribly rheumatic all day, and really tonight, I could cry out with the pain in my knees & hip. ...

I took two letters down to the Post; & as I was coming back, a man called me a “Clipper”!³⁰² Which term, I believe, I’m to consider very complimentary!

Something has been for the last three nights, urging me to look for Baxter’s Will; I cannot think why!

M^{rs} Stonor paid me a long visit today; & we talked quite on literary topics, so I found her very entertaining. ...

July 20th Saturday. Miss Buckland called yesterday; she is looking better, but not strong. M^{rs} Dawson & Miss Scott too, remained an hour in the morning. I had a letter from W.C. whilst they were here. All well at the Deanery. They have heard in a most unsatisfactory manner of Tom Lyttleton. [...]

³⁰¹ Captain Keppel commanded the *Maeander*. The incident to which AB refers occurred on 8 May 1850 and is recorded in Reverend Josiah Thompson’s Journal. According to this account Captain Keppel experiences difficulty but does not capsize. Thompson writes “Capt. K, Brierly & self embarked in this said whale boat, & fetched the shore all safe as it turned out, but all hands appear to think we had a very narrow squeak for a good capsize” (20).

³⁰² Mid-nineteenth-century slang, meaning in this case “an excellent specimen” (*OED*).

July 29th Monday. I forget why I did not write in this last Monday & Tuesday; – but since then, I’ve been too ill to do so.

Friday was the Brown’s River hunt; so I did not see any Doctor until nearly 5 o’clock; & besides which, he dined out, with the “Snob” set at M^r Mousson’s.³⁰³ ...

W.C. tells me some extraordinary things with regard to M^{rs} E. W—s³⁰⁴ & M^r C. W—tt!³⁰⁵ They passed for Man & Wife over on the Perth side of the Country. She must be very attractive! or else very wicked. I am sorry for his poor wife, who is fond of him; & who fretted at his leaving her just at this time.³⁰⁶ She would fret more, if she knew all that occurred.

M^{rs} Curll passed an hour with me this morning; she is looking very well.

I’ve been reading “The hour and the Man”, by Miss Martineau;³⁰⁷ it is entertaining, & gives such a good account of the West Indies & the Natives of the Islands there.

Three Ships in from England this last week, but no letters. Quantities of Illustrated News;³⁰⁸ & containing sad accounts of Ship wrecks. Tomorrow morning, please God, I must be up & doing; & must write to Margaret³⁰⁹ by the *Flying-Fish*.³¹⁰

July 31st Wednesday. I have had during the last fortnight two delightful letters from M^r Massie. It is indeed a pleasure to read so much affection = as one may be sure at all events, that the writer’s mind is fixed on you at whatever distance it may be, for the time. He was, and is, fonder of me than I gave him credit for; & it was truly kind in him to forego my society, merely on account of what the World might say. ...

And now to Hobart Town! Yesterday W.C. dined at Mess; & I had the pleasure of Miss Buckland’s society. Dr MacWharrie sat with me in the afternoon, he has a bad hand, poor fellow.

³⁰³ Not identified.

³⁰⁴ Catherine, née Swanston, wife of Edward Willis.

³⁰⁵ Robert Charles Chester Eardley-Wilmot, known as Chester.

³⁰⁶ Chester had married Jeanie Louise Stewart, second daughter of John Dunn, 4 Dec. 1849. She gave birth to a daughter on 3 Oct. 1850.

³⁰⁷ Harriet Martineau, *The Hour and the Man: A Historical Romance*, 3 vols (n.p.: London, 1841).

³⁰⁸ The *Illustrated London News* was the city’s first illustrated newspaper. It was published weekly from 1842.

³⁰⁹ Margaret McLeod, now living with her mother Catherine McLeod (q.v.) at Geelong.

³¹⁰ The *Flying Fish*, a 122-ton schooner, traded regularly between Port Phillip and Hobart Town. It departed 30 July for Geelong.

M^{rs} Agnew took chloroform, & had one tooth, and 3 stumps of teeth, extracted during her sleep, without in the least being aware of it.

There have been some most wonderful cases of Mesmerism in Port Philip, lately;³¹¹ I shall some day note them down = when time is not so precious; but now the days are so short, that there is scarcely time to see about one, when lo! it is dark. ... D^r Hadley has a very bad cold; & seems in low spirits, unless when we are alone. M^{rs} Marriott has a little boy;³¹² they will be quite vexed that it was not a girl. M^r & M^{rs} Curll dined with us today; they go tonight to lodge with M^{rs} Gibson.³¹³ M^r Clarke & D^r Hadley came here before dinner; & the former is going to ride “the Chestnut” on Friday, at the New Norfolk hunt.

I’m beginning “the Favorite of Nature”.³¹⁴

August 4th Sunday – Yesterday was the Hunt at New Norfolk; William did not go. In the morning I took the children to Miss Sorell’s; and after leaving them there, I called upon M^{rs} Agnew, to ask her to bring M^{rs} Walker³¹⁵ tomorrow evening, to try & mesmerise some of us. ...³¹⁶

*August the 4th 1850*³¹⁷ – And as I was saying in my last Volume, the Hunt took place yesterday; and today our three friends dined with us as usual.

In the afternoon, D^r Hadley walked with me to call on M^{rs} Stonor, & we sat there some time chatting. After he left me at home, I went down to see the Misses Burnett, & on my way, let M^r E. Bedford’s cow into their yard; patted “Don” & “Spring”, and was met by Miss Buckland, who went with me. ...

³¹¹ A practice, said to have therapeutic benefits, where an hypnotic state is induced by the influence of a trained practitioner over the will of another. It was developed by German physician Franz Anton Mesmer in the late eighteenth century and enjoyed “popular vogue” in the Australian colonies in 1849-1850. G.A. Gilbert gave a series of well-attended lectures and demonstrations on mesmerism in Melbourne in August 1850, and in November 1850 William Poyser lectured on the subject in Hobart Town. Mesmerism, also known as Animal Magnetism underpinned the development of the modern practice of hypnotism.

³¹² George Herbert Marriott, son of Julia Ann (née Schaw) and Fitzhubert A. Marriott was born 27 July at New Norfolk Parsonage.

³¹³ Not identified.

³¹⁴ Mary Ann Kelty, *The Favourite of Nature* (London: Whittaker, 1821).

³¹⁵ Theresa, née Chauncy (1807-1876) married harbour-master John Walker at Launceston in 1838. She was a talented artist who specialised in wax medallion portraits.

³¹⁶ Notebook 13 (MS Q 182 Item 2) ends with this entry.

³¹⁷ Notebook 14 (MS Q 182 Item 3), inscribed “Vol: 18th” begins with this entry.

August 6th Tuesday. Yesterday D^r Hadley & I had a ride round the Domain; and in the evening, just before dinner, I went to see poor Prior³¹⁸ who is very ill indeed. I took him some milk & arrow-root; & today some tarts, as he fancied them. I likewise gave him £10- from William. ...

In the evening D^r & M^{rs} Agnew, M^{rs} Walker, ~~the~~ Miss Buckland; D^r Hadley & M^r Clarke came. M^{rs} Walker & D^r Agnew first tried vainly, to mesmerize Miss Ada Sorell; but she could not sufficiently fix her attention. They afterwards tried on me, & in part, succeeded. Very soon after their making “passes” on me, I felt as tho’ I had taken chloroform; my heart seemed to beat very heavily, & altho’ I did not lose consciousness, still it was very near it. Upon D^r Agnew giving up his part, I awoke immediately. ...

W.C. dines at Mess tonight; and I went with M^r & M^{rs} Stonor to hear M^r Elliston read the Play of “Henry the 8th”. The Room was thronged! I’ve never seen so many persons collected in Van Diemen’s Land. He reads very well; & it was worth going for.³¹⁹

There was a most excellent anecdote lately occurred here. A gentleman went to the “Penetentiary” [sic] to select two prisoner servants;³²⁰ & on his entrance gave the order to the Clerk; who called out, “as usual”, to some Constables, & the man found himself very quickly derobéd, and put into a tub of water, & well washed. Besides this, a barber came & cut his hair off, and shaved his whiskers off ; and upon his saying he would complain to the Governor, he got the brush dabbed into his mouth; – Whereupon he said “And this is the way you serve them”; and had for answer, “Just as if you had never been sarved so before”! He thought the wisest plan was to submit; so after all was over, and the mistake found out, he said “There, give me my servants;” & walked off – as he said – “not having had such a good wash, for a long time”. ...

³¹⁸ Not identified.

³¹⁹ William Gore Elliston (1798-1872) arrived VDL 1830. He was master at Longford Academy 1833-1837, then printer and publisher of the *Hobart Town Courier* and later *Courier* until 1848, after which time he returned to his former occupation of auctioneer. An active community member, he had a keen interest in amateur theatricals. On Tuesday 6 Aug. 1850 he had concluded the reading of *Henry IV* before a “densely crowded audience at the Mechanics Institute” (*Courier* 10 Aug. 1850). The Tuesday before, with “500 or 600 people looking keenly upon him,” he had read the first two acts, as well as an “admirable criticism of the character of Falstaff by Mackenzie of the ‘Lounger.’” On this occasion music was provided by the band of the 99th Foot and “Mrs Elliot on that magical tuned instrument, the Organ-Melodium” (*Courier* 3 Aug. 1850).

³²⁰ The Penitentiary, a prison barrack, was situated in Campbell St, near Bathurst St. Of the 289 male prisoners who had recently arrived on the *Blenheim*, 267 had received tickets-of-leave and had been “sent to the penitentiary to await hiring” (*Sydney Morning Herald* 6 Aug. 1850).

August 7th Wednesday. The morning, as usual, with the children; and at 12 o'clock, Mary Anne Burnett, came. She remained until One; at ½ past 2, Louis & I went for a ride with D^r Hadley. He was in unusually good spirits, and I in unusually low ones. Nearly the whole time I was out, the tears were chasing each other down my cheeks: and perhaps, it is not much to be wondered at.

Upon consideration, I have no right to go to England, for my Passage money would take my whole Year's allowance, at the present rate of Interest which I get. It is not my wish to be dependent on William, and I do not see how I am to exist in England on so small a sum as £80-per annum. But it is very paltry-minded in me to fret about such things; I must only make up my mind what to do = and first of all, I must show the Deed to M^r Roberts, and ask his advice on it, as W.C. says it is not worth a farthing. Oh! surely, I suffer for my sins! what with bad health & anxiety. I fear I shall have to go over to Port Fairy, & settle the affair. ...

August 13th Tuesday. I can hardly account for my laziness in not writing oftener in this book. Since I did so, I have driven M^{rs} Cully up to M^{rs} Roberts'; taken my usual rides, until today; when I drove out the children to Prior's. He is still very ill; and his poor wife, near her confinement, and has to nurse him, & a sick child = besides which her leg is swollen so shockingly; & obliged to be bandaged. Unfortunate creatures! How sad to see persons married, and with families encreasing rapidly; with sickness & Poverty to contend with. She said to me "Oh! that it will please God to put me out of my Misery! He seems to have quite forgotten us!" "Whom the Lord loveth, he chasteneth,"³²¹ I replied: and went on to tell her she must think more of her children, & less of herself. ...

W.C. is dining at Mess tonight. D^r Hadley came for ½ an hour, to say "Adieu"; as he starts tomorrow morning to Port Arthur; to remain until Monday next.

M^{rs} Walker is taking my profile in wax. I'm afraid she will not succeed any better than the rest: yet I hope she may, as I wish so much to send one away.

This morning I received two long letters from dear M^r Massie; they have pained me considerably. Only to imagine me, a vain woman, never dreaming of what the contents of one

³²¹ Hebrews 12:6: "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son he receiveth."

letter tells me. He truly says, “we will be dear, very dear friends”! Poor soul! & I always quizzing him about his penchant for so many fair ones! –

Armidale is quite a township; and he says his Cottage is so comfortable; & he has sent me a sketch of his old Cottage on the McLeay. He has enclosed two letters of 1844; why did he not send them before? They would have altered my views very much; & how much happier I might have been.

Baxter is gone with M^r Flower to Port Macquarie; so he will see Captain Briggs, & be able to do something for him, I hope.

The report today in town, is, that M^r Smith O’Brien has made his escape from Port Arthur – or rather “Maria Island”; how true the statement is, remains to be proved.³²² I shall write by the *Blenheim* to M^r Massie.³²³

M^{rs} McLeod sent me such a long letter last week; & really almost abused me in it, about M^{rs} E. Willis: I must go to bed now, & write more on this subject another time. It is past Midnight.

August 17th Saturday. ... On Thursday M^{rs} Walker, Mess^{rs} Sharland & Schaw & Captain Deering dined here. Before dinner Mess^{rs} Clarke & Akers called; the former to say that the Governor[’]s Box at the Theatre was at our disposal;³²⁴ so knowing that the gentlemen would like to go, I sent to Miss Buckland to come in, and accompany M^{rs} Walker there: the Fates however, decided that I should not get out of it, & so away we went, only six in a Cab! I sat on W.C.’s knee going; Miss Buckland took my place coming home.

³²² Irish political dissident Smith O’Brien (see entry 29 Oct. 1849) was sent to the Penal Station at Maria Island to serve his sentence in Oct. 1849. The *Courier* 14 Aug. 1850 reported O’Brien’s escape from Maria Island. However later reports in both newspapers suggest that there was some doubt as to whether or not an escape was attempted. The *CT* reports that Smith O’Brien was “recaptured by the Government before he had even the pleasure of bidding adieu, for however brief a space, to the spot of his confinement” (16 Aug. 1850).

³²³ The mail for Sydney per *Blenheim* closed 4 p.m. Saturday 17 Aug. (*CT* 16 Aug. 1850).

³²⁴ A performance which included “Howard Payne’s beautiful Roman Tragedy of BRUTUS, or, The Fall of Tarquin,” followed by a dancing performance from Mrs Young and “a comic song ‘The Temptation of Good St. Anthony’ by Mr Young” and concluded by a “Laughable Farce ... entitled THE WINDMILL” took place on Thursday 15 Aug. at the Royal Victoria Theatre under the patronage of Sir William Dennison (*Courier* 14 Aug. 1850).

“Brutus” was performed; oh! such work! the last scene, I fairly laughed out, at = for when the Ghost is seen, one of the Actresses, an enormously stout woman, fell flat on her face, & in consequence, up went her legs! ...

I called yesterday to see Miss Sorell, who is very poorly with the mumps;³²⁵ I sent her some books this evening. Miss Ada went up to dress for walking, & I called in at M^{rs} Agnew’s. I found both she & D^r Agnew in. We then (Miss A. Sorell & I) proceeded to the Post Office, where I put two letters; the one to Armidale (3rd) and the other for M^r W. Rutledge, with an enclosure for M^r Baxter. I received at the late hour of yesterday, a letter from this gentleman; & Mess^{rs} Allport & Roberts have a Deed for me to sign, sent to them by M^r Wickham. I have told M^r B — that I will sign it, provided he agrees to certain terms that I’ve mentioned. ...

I had last evening, by the *Franklin*,³²⁶ a long long letter from dearest Marion; who writes in her usual happy way. She too, has had a Geelong account of my affair with M^{rs} E. Willis; but she does not believe it. She tells me of M^r Baxter, and if her two Sydney correspondents are to be relied upon, certainly they corroborate M^{rs} Frazer’s account of the appearance & health of my Husband. Marion gives me a description of her Baby. I must copy out the paragraphs from her letter referring to M^r B.³²⁷ [...]

August 22nd Thursday. M^r Sharland breakfasted with me at 9 o’clock; M^{rs} Walker came at ½ past. After seeing them comfortably settled to the portrait taking, I went down to see M^{rs} Curll, & sat there until after Parade. It is such a treat to me to hear Military music. I walked home, and Mrs Walker touched up my face. ... All agree that mine is a good likeness, but much too old: I like this better, than ~~it~~ that it should be thought flattering.

My poor old face never was more discussed I’m sure, than it has been lately. I asked M^{rs} Walker why she had flattered (as Mess^{rs} Burnett & Buckland said) M^r Sharland; and not done so with me: so she said “Oh! I could not flatter your face”! Shall I turn vain?

³²⁵ Contagious viral disease of the parotid salivary glands usually affecting children; the *Courier* reports this particular outbreak and notes an unusual prevalence amongst “grown persons” (28 Sep. 1850).

³²⁶ The 295-ton, government owned barque *Franklin* departed Sydney 9 Aug. for Hobart Town.

³²⁷ The remainder of the page is blank.

August 24th Saturday. Yesterday M^{rs} Walker & M^r Sharland were here, as the previous day: and after she had finished his caste, which is most excellent, she altered mine. ...

In the evening we went to the Theatre to hear the “Ethiopean Serenaders”; they performed very well. Two of them play the Accordion well; & one man plays some bones remarkably well. Some of their Riddles were tolerably good, & rather laughable. ... They sang two very pretty songs – called “Take me back to old Virginia” – and “The banks of the Ohio”.³²⁸ We sat in the Governor’s box; & M^{rs} C. Wilmott was the centre of attraction, & M^{rs} J. Dunn, & M^{rs} Arnold on either side. ...

August 26th Monday. D^r MacWharrie dined with me, and as usual stayed very late: it is past 12 o’clock. He sent to D^r Agnew’s for the S[yringe] and I’m happy to say, my deafness is better, in consequence.³²⁹ He is a queer mortal; & I wish I could quite believe what he tells me of a friend of mine – I should be happier. It is very strange, but I never could believe thoroughly in any person’s love – Man, Woman or child! ...

August 27th Tuesday – I went directly after breakfast to Miss Burnett’s, and found Mary Anne had the mumps! The children next came on the list – and oh! I last night finished my cushion.

Annie was to pass the afternoon at M^{rs} Smith’s, Louis & Catharine³³⁰ therefore walked with her there. I walked into town with M^{rs} Curll, and have come home very tired. M^r Clarke came here, and remained until 6 o’clock, when he went home to entertain Mess^{rs} de Winton, C. Wilmott, and L. Smith; after dinner, they go to the Theatre to hear the Connundrums.³³¹ ...

³²⁸ The Ethiopian Serenaders were a “blackface minstrel troupe” originating in the United States in the early 1840s. They first performed in England in 1846, where they became very popular. Watchorn and Reading’s company arrived in Sydney in Mar. 1850 and performed there and in Melbourne before arriving in Hobart Town in August. The *Courier* 10 Aug. reports that the company’s performance on 7 Aug. “appeared to give general satisfaction; some of the songs, as well as Mr Reading’s solo on the flutina and banjo, and the flutina and bone duet, being repeatedly encored. The programme included, amongst other negro melodies, a lament, ‘Carry Me Back to Old Virginny,’ a serenade, ‘My Canoe is on de Ohio,’ and a pretty song, ‘My Dark-eyed Maid.’ ... The music was chaste and elevated.”

³²⁹ Hearing is sometimes impaired by an accumulation of wax in the ear canal. Usually the problem is alleviated when warm water is syringed into the ear. An 1849 case study demonstrates the use of this procedure to remove a foreign body from a child’s ear (Toynbee 71).

³³⁰ Catharine was in service with the Haddens.

³³¹ The “Wits of Hobart Town” had been invited to send “original Connundrum[s]” to Mr Blythe Waterland (Ethiopian Serenaders) for performance at the Victoria Theatre on 27 Aug. 1850. The best – “decided by twelve disinterested gentlemen” – would receive a “Prize Silver Cup” (*CT* 27 Aug. 1850).

August 28th Wednesday. I've just returned from passing the evening at M^{rs} Buckland's; where I found the Misses Sorell, Lewis,³³² and Pitcairn.³³³ I never had met the two latter; and am pleased with both. Miss Pitcairn plays remarkably well, & with much feeling. Miss Lewis sings well, and has a mellow, deep voice, with seemingly a good compass, too. ...

I had a very agreeable ride with D^r Hadley, altho' he scarcely spoke to me. Poor Louis did not go, as he received a flogging this morning, & I thought riding would not agree with him. ... I do really believe that A.S.³³⁴ is fond of my Brother; & what a silly girl to be so, knowing, as she must, what a regular Flirt he is. She looks very ill. I've got the music of "Virginy Shores"³³⁵ –

August 29th Thursday. This morning I went out into town, and hunted thro' all the shops for tassels & satin for the cushion; at last I got them at Pearson's,³³⁶ and very pretty they are, too. When I returned, I found W.C. at home. M^{rs} Walker came and finished off my portrait. D^r Hadley came next, and left at a little after 2, to go to the Hunt: he & W.C. both rode up with the Governor & hunt tomorrow at the "Woolpack Inn", near to New Norfolk.³³⁷ ... I went to see Prior today: he is very ill, & truly wretched looking. I sent M^r Esdell³³⁸ his song.

August 31st Saturday. I was too tired last night to write in this book; whatt [sic] with Mesmerism, & laughing, I was completely "Done up".

After the luncheon yesterday, the children had the two little Priaulx³³⁹ in, to go for a walk with them, & remain to tea. Captain Pratt came to have a chat; D^r McWharrie was here previously, and remained all the afternoon. Captain Deering & M^r Johnston paid me a visit, & whilst they were all here, in came M^{rs} & Miss Twiss.

³³² Isabella Lewis (b. 1831) was the eldest surviving daughter of Richard Lewis (1789-1867) and his wife Isabella, née MacKellar (1799-1884).

³³³ Eliza Anne Pitcairn (b. 1831) was the daughter of Robert Pitcairn (1802-1861) and Dorothea Jessie Pitcairn, née Dumas, sister of Helen (b. 1851) and Robbie (b. 1842).

³³⁴ Augusta Sorrel sister of Julia (q.v.).

³³⁵ "Oh! Carry Me Back to Ole Virginy," author/ composer unknown published Baltimore: F.D. Benteen, 1847.

³³⁶ Leonard Pearson's "Cabinet and Upholstery Warehouse," Elizabeth St. Hobart Town, advertised "Damask and Union of all colours, with deep Fringes and Gimps to match" (*Courier* 27 Sept. 1848).

³³⁷ The Woolpack Inn was located at Macquarie Plains, 39 miles (62 km) from Hobart and 11 miles (17 km) north of New Norfolk, on the northern bank of the Derwent River.

³³⁸ Not identified.

³³⁹ Children of Amelia née Hide (1808 - 1853) and Henry Priaulx (Assistant Commissary General). AB had known the Priaulx family in Launceston in the 1830s.

In the evening, D^r Macwharrie called for me, and we went down to D^r Agnew's; before going, however, I blackened my eyebrows; put plaster over my mole, and so disfigured myself, that M^{rs} Agnew took me for a very intoxicated person, & opened the street door for me, to get rid of me. When D^r Agnew came in, I personated a "Patient"; he asked me what I complained of? – and I said "Pain in my chest". "Were my eyes affected"? "Slightly" – whereupon he lit a candle, and held it to my eyes; and I squinted, blinked, winked, etc. He said he would call on the morrow to see me; & I got up to go, but could not contain my laughter any more. He says he never saw more perfect acting, & never had the smallest idea of it's being me. ...

September 4th Wednesday. On Monday D^r Hadley, Louis, & I went for a ride; and in the evening, W.C. and I went to Government House, to hear the "Bones'" Serenaders. There was a goodly assembly and the Singers did their duty.

The Glee singers³⁴⁰ of the 99th were there likewise, & really sung very well. I was introduced to D^r Andrews,³⁴¹ and we talked of D^r M^cTernan³⁴² & his family. ...

Today has been too wet to venture out, excepting to see Miss Burnett this morning, & M^{rs} Curll this afternoon. Poor Miss Burnett had great grievances, as usual, to enumerate. Her spirit, poor soul! seems gone. Yet the one to cause so much misery now, should not have been a sister; & I must have a talk with Mary Anne about it. ...

I've been reading such an interesting work, called "the old English gentleman", by M^r J. Mills;³⁴³ it is so delightfully written: and the Character in it, of the old Huntsman, is beautifully described.

W.C. dined at M^r Arnold's, & is just returned home in the Carriage: He says "poor Augusta" is very ill! I should not wonder at her at last catching him, but I hope not. [...]

September 9th Monday. My first Visitors today, were M^{rs} Roberts & her sister M^{rs} ~~Vickery~~ Harrison.³⁴⁴

³⁴⁰ Glee singers usually perform part songs without musical accompaniment.

³⁴¹ Not identified.

³⁴² James McTernan was Surgeon-Superintendent on the *Augusta Jessie*, when AB travelled to VDL in 1834.

³⁴³ John Mills, *The Old English Gentleman; or the Fields and the Woods*, 3 vols (n.p.: London, 1841).

W.C. drove me up to M^{rs} Dawson's to call on M^{rs} Walker. I sat for some time with M^{rs} Dawson, who is confined to her room. When I returned I found D^r Hadley here; & at ½ past 2 o'clock we went for our ride. When I came home, I found Mary Anne had been to see me; and on looking from the door, I saw her just going over to the other side of the street, so I called her in; & she came to my room, whilst I was busy undressing. I'm glad I never believe the one side of the story, until I've heard both sides; for her statement seems very truthful.

September 10th Tuesday. The *Derwent* arrived today from England, and brings news of the *Calcutta*.³⁴⁵ M^r E. Bedford has heard from his wife; & D^r Hadley from M^r Montgomerie, who still continues an Invalid. I had a very pleasing note from Miss Aplin,³⁴⁶ in which she thanks me for the Portraits of her Brothers; & kindly invites me to go and see her when I return to England. She tells me the Doctor holds a Government appointment at Borneo; but does not like the Climate of that place half as well as Australia; & intends in two years more to go home, and bring his sisters out to settle with him in N.S.Wales.³⁴⁷ M^r Dyson wrote to her from California, & speaks as tho' he were likely to make money. The *Emma* is in, but I've no letters as yet.³⁴⁸

Mary Anne came this morning, and read to me all the letters & statements connected with the ugly quarrels which have lately existed in her family. I think M^{rs} J. Burnett the "Defaulter" = and not Mary Anne. W.C. drove her into town, after my telling him my opinion on the matter. ... M^{rs} Walker was here this afternoon, and altered my profile again: this time, it is like me. ... Reading "Polynesian Life", by Herman Melville,³⁴⁹ it is interesting to me, as I've seen so much of Savage life, & can understand it.

³⁴⁴ Ellen Harrison, née Vicary (b. 1824), sister of Mary Anne Roberts, and wife of Thomas John Harrison.

³⁴⁵ The 400-ton barque *Derwent* was built in VDL and locally owned. The *Courier* reports that the vessel "had made a splendid passage of 98 days from London." The *Courier* also reports that the *Calcutta* was to sail for Hobart Town on 10 July (11 Sep. 1850).

³⁴⁶ Sister of Christopher D'Oyley Heyden Aplin (1819-1875) and Oliver Dyson Aplin. AB had known the brothers at Yambuk.

³⁴⁷ Christopher Aplin was Collector of Customs and Surveyor-General for his uncle James Brooke (the 'White Rajah of Sarawak' from 1842 until 1868). Aplin returned to Victoria in 1852 and joined the Geological Survey in 1856 (Frost, *Journal* 293).

³⁴⁸ 139-ton brig arrived 10 Sep. from Sydney.

³⁴⁹ Herman Melville, *Narrative of a four months residence among the natives of a valley of the Marquesas Islands; or, a peep at Polynesian Life* (n.p.: London, 1846). This volume was published in America as *Typee, a Peep at Polynesian Life*, no publication details (British Library Integrated Catalogue).

September 12th Thursday. Yesterday I walked into town with M^{rs} Stonor, & we returned in a Cab, as it rained. In the morning I drove with Annie to sit with M^{rs} Frazer, who still continues in bed. We dined at D^r Dawson's; There were 15 persons at table. The evening passed pleasantly; He is a delightful companion. Madame, who has been on the Sick list, came to dinner, & altho' she eat little, she amused herself very well in the other way. He appeared vexed; & said once to me, when she was drinking Ale, "She must be very ill, to give up that propensity"! I never saw him so annoyed. ...

September 14th Saturday. Yesterday the Hunt took place at Bagdad;³⁵⁰ the day was very hot, so the sport was not so good. Captain Pratt entertained Sir William very much with his prattle. [...]

September 18th Wednesday. W.C. dined at home on Monday, at the Mess, yesterday. Tonight he is gone to the Theatre.³⁵¹ Since Saturday I've been too ill to get out, & the weather has been very stormy & wet. Mt Wellington is covered with snow today, and looks very well.

This morning I walked down with Mary Anne to speak to her sister. I could do nothing, they were both so full of recrimination! It is a sad affair for two sisters to quarrel so terribly; in fact this one is a finale to all kindliness of feeling. ...

D^r MacWharrie called to see Edward this morning, & upon going away, locked me in to the back room. This afternoon he came whilst M^{rs} Walker was here. He passed the evening with me. ... The Journals & letter are fastened up to go by the *Emma* tomorrow.

Some other time I must note down M^{rs} Walker's journey to "Oyster Cove";³⁵² & the case of clairvoyance³⁵³ there. Her upset — & —.

September 22nd Sunday. On Thursday William gave a Quadrille Party, and there [were] 54 persons here. I must admit, with the rest, that it went off very merrily. We had 5 of the Band, & they

³⁵⁰ Mr Sharland's hounds were advertised to meet at Bagdad, 20 miles [32 km] to the north of Hobart at 10 o'clock on Friday 13 Sep. (*Courier* 11 Sep 1850).

³⁵¹ The "gentlemen of the Amateur Dramatic Club" gave a performance at which the "His Excellency and Lady Denison" were present (*Courier* 18 Sep. 1850).

³⁵² Oyster Cove is 21 miles (35 kms) from Hobart and opposite the northern end of Bruny Island. In 1847 a small group of mostly "aged or incapacitated" Aboriginal people were relocated to an "ex-convict government settlement" at Oyster Cove from Wybalenna on Flinders Island (Gough 261-62).

³⁵³ An ability to perceive or "see" what is happening or exists out of sight. Clairvoyance was topical at this time and mesmerists in both Hobart Town and Melbourne experimented with it in persons whom they had mesmerised. The *CT* of 13 Aug. 1850 included a long report about the use of clairvoyance to predict the fate of Sir John Franklin's expedition to the Arctic Circle.

played very well. I had no new Guests, with the exception of D^{rs} Butler³⁵⁴ & Andrews; & M^r and M^{rs} J. Dunn.³⁵⁵ We kept it up until nearly 3 o'clock.

On Friday D^{rs} Agnew & MacWharrie administered Chloroform to me again, and took out 3 teeth. I suffered a good deal after the operation, but was perfectly unconscious of at³⁵⁶ the time. After being placed on my bed, I remained fully two hours in a trance; one of which, I imagine, I could hear every word that was spoken. M^{rs} Walker was present, and was rather upset with it; but I heard her say she would like to see a leg taken off under the influence of Chloroform! She is a strange woman. She & her sister-in-law called at Ten, to ask how I was, which was very kind. ...

I had a long letter from M^r Thompson, dated 19th July; & written from Tahiti.³⁵⁷ He gives a very good description of the Scenery of the places in which he has been since he left, and seems still very true to Hobart Town. The Maeander was nearly swamped at Tahiti; & he tells me the Gun deck was under water. His letter is dated No. 3, but I've never yet received No.2.

We had a letter from Harriet & Woodward; they both attack me for extravagance; & say they will not advance any more money until I go home.

Our three friends dined with us today; & I was much amused by a scene between W.C. Captⁿ Deering, & D^r Hadley, on the score of Old "Rangy-tangy"!³⁵⁸

I went to see M^{rs} Stonor, & found her in bed, so I sat with her for some time. I then went down to Miss Burnett's; they were both there, when I first went, but the elder one went with M^{rs} Maclean to Church. Mary Anne took me up to their room to show me a letter of M^{rs} F. Smith's, in which she contradicts ever having heard M. A. say anything to her sister's prejudice! I would not

³⁵⁴ Henry Butler (1821-1885) was the third son of Gamaliel Butler and his wife Sarah, née Paine. He trained as a surgeon in London and was appointed a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1849. He returned to VDL in 1849 as surgeon-superintendent on the *William Jardine* and in January 1850 established a practice in Macquarie St. In 1853 he married Catherine Penelope Smith.

³⁵⁵ John Dunn (1818-1860), and his wife Ellen, née Skurray. John was the eldest son of Hobart Town banker John Dunn (1790-1861) and his wife Clair, née Colville. He had returned to VDL in 1844 with his English wife and in 1845 was appointed to the Legislative Council following the resignation of Thomas Archer.

³⁵⁶ Superscript in original.

³⁵⁷ The *Maeander* on which Thompson sailed arrived in Tahiti 11 July 1850 from Tongolattoo and Auckland. Details of the voyage are recorded in Josiah Thompson's hand at the back of AB's "overland journal" (MS. Q 181 Item 4). Several entries in Thompson's voyage record suggest that he has this volume with him.

³⁵⁸ Not identified.

take her word, now, in a Court of Justice! She told me distinctly here the other night, that M. A. had so often gone to her, & tried to set her against her; & this she told Miss Burnett! ... And now I'm very tired, so I shall close this.

September 25th Wednesday. Last evening, we went to M^{rs} F. Smith's; the commencement of the Soriée was very dismal; but when the Dancing began, it was all right – and off they went! So I played every dance but two, (Polka & Valse) and at ½ past 12 o'clock, walked home with D^r Hadley. There were about 25 persons there. ...

I received a letter from M^r Rutledge today, enclosing one from M^r Baxter to him; in which he agrees to all my wishes relating to the money, etc. ...

September 26th Thursday. Just returned from Govt House; it is the first time I ever dined there: and I found it less stupid than I imagined. Captⁿ Smith took me into dinner, & M^r J. Abbott sat on my right hand; so we renewed our acquaintance.³⁵⁹ There were 20 persons present; and the table, altho' not as handsomely served as some I've seen, was very prettily arranged, & very good attendance. We left at ½ past 10: – and as William wished to go to M^r Clarke's to smoke, I drove M^r Frazer up thus far; & even allowed him to smoke. [...]

Tuesday 1st of October. Yesterday morning at 12 o'clock D^r Hadley & W.C. left this for Bothwell. ... I have had a long letter today from M^r Thompson; written at Norfolk Island & N. Zealand.³⁶⁰ It is No.2. I sent one to him today; and one to Woodward³⁶¹ likewise, by the *Marmion*.³⁶² I wrote a long letter to M^r Massie. No. 7 ...

October 4th Friday. On Wednesday morning I heard the bad tidings of poor D^r Hadley's having the previous day had a fall, whilst hunting; & his having broken his Collar bone, & sprained his wrist. It threw a great damp over my spirits, & until today, I've not ventured out riding; & have refused to dine out three times. It seems however, he is not so much hurt as I thought, for he was

³⁵⁹ Presumably John Abbott (1803-1875), a public servant and landowner; AB had been acquainted with the Abbott family when she lived in Launceston (see entry 30 Jan. 1837).

³⁶⁰ The *Maeander* was at Norfolk Island 7-8 May 1850 and in NZ, where it called at Wellington, Auckland and the Bay of Islands, 21 May -11 June 1850.

³⁶¹ Presumably F. Woodward, husband of AB's sister Harriet.

³⁶² The 400-ton ship *Marmion*, commanded by James T. Peat, departed Hobart Town for London 5 Oct.

at the breakfast table next morning; & instead of coming into town today with D^r Richardson³⁶³ in his Carriage; he prefers rioting out the week at Hutton Park.³⁶⁴ ...

Today Louis & I went on the Beach, where I had a good gallop. After coming home, I took Annie into town, to look for a Doll's bonnet, but could not find one. Reading "the O'Donoghue",³⁶⁵ & like it.

October 1[4]th Monday. I must not look at the date of the last day on which I wrote in this; I've been lazy = & am sorry for it.

First then; I've had letters from M^r Rutledge, Margaret & M^{rs} M^cLeod; the two former are answered: the latter never will be. ... D^r Hadley is getting better very slowly, owing to his being so fidgetty; and today he has been in a dirty, hot, smoky skittle ground; positively drinking hot gin and water, too! So much for his preference of Gentlemen' and Ladies' society! ...

Poor Miss Burnett! I went to see her yesterday, and found her in miserable spirits, owing to her having received a letter from Major Ainslie,³⁶⁶ in which he gives up his Engagement with her. He is a bad man, to treat her so; = & will meet his reward some day.

I'm reading "Caleb Stukely",³⁶⁷ & do'nt think very much of it. ...
October []th Saturday. I have been so completely & fully occupied lately, that I really could not find time to write in my poor, neglected Journal. Yet, with all my pursuits, there have been lazy moments; amounting in all, most likely, to hours! Frequently I think such happy, blissful, moments, as I do sometimes pass, can never return! –

First and foremost I must tell of my dream of this morning; Methought Captain Deering, D^r Hadley & M^r Johnstone were serving in Lewis' shop; & the former of these three making me try on some "very becoming caps"! After I left the house, W.C. and the children, and I were taken prisoners by the French; and I slept in a kind of Stable: Whilst musing on the manner in which I

³⁶³ William Richardson (c.1795-1863) arrived VDL 1848 with his wife and family. He was the senior colonial surgeon.

³⁶⁴ Property of John Bisdee (1796-1862) near Melton Mowbray 35 miles (56 km) from Hobart and 12 miles (19 km) from Bothwell.

³⁶⁵ Not identified.

³⁶⁶ Frederick George Ainslie, an officer of the 21st Foot stationed VDL 1833-1839.

³⁶⁷ Samuel Phillips, *Caleb Stukely*, 3 vols (Edinburgh, 1844).

might effect my escape, a black man of immense stature, (so like M^r Todd, too!) came in, and sat down on the foot of my mattress; After rocking himself to and fro for a little time, he sprang towards me and said “Je suis Émile de Girardin,³⁶⁸ toujours prêt dans votre Service; il faut que vous m’embrassez; alors vous sortirez de ces lieux.” “Vous! de Girardin! Non, non ; Aussi c’est ma soeur, et non pas moi que vous aimez!” Il repliqua = “C’était toujours toi!”³⁶⁹ I began to think how I could possibly get out of his power, when I saw M^r Clarke sliding thro’ a small aperture in the wall = & he had on his funny old hat: he said “Oh! I’m coming to you Annie; who so fit to take charge of you as I am”? I could not suppress my laughter; but on turning round to see for de Girardin, I found D^r Hadley sitting where he had been. – Oh! I felt so happy; & I threw myself on the mattress [sic] by his side; – and – woke up!

On Friday last we had a Polka here; there were 25 persons, and they kept it up until 2 o’clock. ...

November 2nd Saturday. It is quite shameful my being so long in writing up my Journal: and altho’ each night as I go to bed, I say “Well, I must write tonight”; still, I find upon examination, that nearly a fortnight has elapsed since I did so. M^{rs} Dawson gave a delightful party on Wednesday week, at which I remained until ¼ past 1 o’clock, when I returned with D^r Hadley, who was sleeping in W.C.’s room, his own being whitewashed, etc.

Last night we dined at M^r Stonor’s, and found 9 other persons there. ... There has been such a rumpus between M^r Burnett, D^r Lillie,³⁷⁰ & W.C. Indeed it is not yet settled.

I had a long & affectionate letter from dearest Jessie³⁷¹ yesterday; in which she begs of me to go and live with them for a Year or two. I had an equally affectionate letter from Robert

³⁶⁸ Émile de Girardin (1806-1881) was the illegitimate son of a French nobleman and the wife of a Parisien lawyer and a popular French journalist and politician. He was a well-known figure and his activities were reported from time to time in the English press. It is not clear why he was a figure in AB’s dream.

³⁶⁹ I am Émile de Girardin, always ready at your service; you must kiss me; then you will leave these places [parts]. You! De Girardin! No, no; also it is my sister, and not me who you love! He replied = it was always you (French).

³⁷⁰ John Lillie (1806-1866), Prebyterian minister arrived VDL 1837, married Mary Gascoigne (b.1809), daughter of John Burnett (q.v.) in 1838. He was President of the Hobart Mechanical Institute 1838-1854, foundation vice-president of the Royal Society of Tasmania 1845-1848, and rector at the non-denominational Hobart Town High School (whose establishment he had supported) 1851-1852. He settled with his family in Christchurch, NZ in 1861 and died there 15 Jan. 1866. The cause of the disagreement to which AB refers is not known.

Massie, in which he reminds me of his name being Robert. He always was a strange creature; but I'm very fond of him. ...

November 3rd Sunday. Rain, which has been so much wanted, has at last, come; & thankful we should be for it; had it not come, the Crops in some parts of the Country would have been quite destroyed:= and as it is, it comes too late for some.³⁷²

Dear M^r Archer died last Monday week; he will be deeply regretted, he was so good a man.³⁷³ Woolmers is left to little Tom; Fairfield to Joe; and Cheshunt to William.³⁷⁴ M^r Davies wrote to tell us. ...

I've had such a Diamond ring given me, by dear D^r Hadley; it is too valuable, that's all: I would refuse such gifts, were it not that he would only give it (the money) to something less, or somebody more, undeserving. ...

I am reading "Memoirs of Charles Matthews," written by his second Wife.³⁷⁵ [...] *November 5th Guy Fawkes day – and Tuesday.* It has been a gloriously wet day; and I think the Farmers will now say "Hold enough"!

W.C. was on a Court-Martial in the morning; and after 1 o'clock, remained at home with me, & read "Matthews' Diary" when we were alone. ... M^r J. Burnett came in during all the wet; & brought some letter for W.C.'s inspection: they then commenced abusing D^r Lillie & Mary Anne, but W.C. did not do so, nearly as much, as the affectionate Brother! ...

Soon after, M^r Clarke came in, and he & mon frère³⁷⁶ had a great argument relative to M^r Burnett's case. They both dined at Mess.

³⁷¹ Jessie Smythe, née Allan (q.v.), AB's fiend from Launceston.

³⁷² The *Courier* 9 Nov. reports that the "fall of rain from Saturday night to Wednesday morning was 3¾ inches [8.4 cm] in Hobart Town and its neighbourhood." A later edition includes the following report: "The change in the weather is truly gratifying, and will contribute materially towards assisting the small farmers, who are chiefly dependent on crops. ... The sheep farmers will also benefit by this favourable change, the ground previously being in a most barren and unfruitful state, with little or no feed" (13 Nov. 1850).

³⁷³ Thomas Archer (q.v.) died aged 61 years on 16 Oct. 1850 after a long period of illness.

³⁷⁴ Archer's grandson Thomas Chalmers Archer (1840-1890) inherited Woolmers; his son Joseph (1823-1914) inherited Fairfield (12,061 acres [4881 hec.]); and another son William (1820-1874) inherited Cheshunt (9,940 acres [4022.5 hec.]).

³⁷⁵ Elizabeth Mathews, *Memoirs of Charles Mathews, Comedian*, 4 vols (London: Richard Bentley, 1838-39).

³⁷⁶ My brother (French).

November 7th Thursday. I must first note the birth of M^{rs} Curll's little daughter; born this morning.³⁷⁷ The poor little woman has had a long time of it. D^r MacWharrie came & told me about 11 o'clock; & soon after, M^r Curll. I drove out to see her at 12 – and called on M^{rs} Stonor on my way: She has her Mother & Sister now staying with her.

Yesterday M^r Macdonald³⁷⁸ came & boxed with W.C. for upwards of an hour. And last night, he & D^r Hadley painted the Undertakers over with red paint: unfortunately, it was easily washed out this morning: but old Millington³⁷⁹ says whoever did it, ought to be hanged! and has offered £10 reward to the informer of who committed the trespass. ...

When I returned this morning from M^{rs} Curll's, I found M^{rs} J. Burnett & Mary Schaw here; the former asked us to dine there on Saturday. D^r Hadley had brought me Glover's Sketch-book to look at.

After my fair friends had left, I went with W.C. to call on M^{rs} Bishop;³⁸⁰ she is staying at M^r Maclean's. She is a lively French Créole; and altho' far from pretty, she is piquante in her expression & manner. Miss Maclean was in the room, & has very ladylike, agreeable manners & style. ...

November 9th Saturday. In the morning I took Louis to Miss Sorell's; and then drove Miss Ada first to Lewis's, where I purchased two dresses; & then to M^{rs} Curll's: I went up to see the little woman, & was glad to get out of the room again, for she was so dirty! Upon my word, I begin to think that she has never moved since her accouchement – not even to wash her face! ...

Ada Sorell returned with me, & we found M^r Macdonald with W.C. They boxed for an hour, and after that W.C. drove Ada & Annie into town. This was a reconciliation between these two. I cannot imagine what pleasure there is in continually being at variance with some one or other; which William invariably is. ...

³⁷⁷ Mrs Curll's daughter was named Marian Elizabeth Cathcart.

³⁷⁸ Not identified.

³⁷⁹ W.M. Millington, undertaker and carpenter of Davey St.

³⁸⁰ Victoria Besson, wife of William Bishop, newly appointed Deputy Commissary General for VDL. The Bishops and their two sons arrived VDL from Sydney 30 Oct. 1850.

November 10th Sunday. Louis & I went to Church this morning; it was very warm: and upon leaving, we heard that the youngest of M^r Allport's children,³⁸¹ had just been drowned. Poor little fellow! he appears to have gone down with his boat, (altho' forbidden to do so,) to a pond in their garden; and upon his being missed from breakfast, his Papa went to look for him: he saw the child's cap on the water, but still never thought of the little wearer, being below.

When he returned to the house, he happened to ask the next eldest what cap his brother had on? and when he was told the one, the whole truth flashed across his mind; & he rushed down to the water, followed by M^{rs} and Miss Allport. He jumped into the pond, and soon found the dead body of his child; & M^{rs} Allport received it from him. What different sensations must have been caused in the Mother, between the first & the last time that child had been placed in her arms! It must indeed be a sad thing to see a loved Object unable to answer our caress at any time; yet how much more so, when we think ~~th~~ it never will do so again! [...]

November 13th Wednesday. Drove to see M^{rs} Curll; she is doing very well; it is her 21st Birthday. They wish me to be Godmother to the Baby; but I said I would only be Proxy. ...

November 15th Friday. ... W.C. had letters by the *William Jardine*,³⁸² from M^{rs} Jacquier & Mina: they tell him of the Officer being on his passage out here, who is to relieve him. So we shall soon go, now. ...

This morning I went with Augusta Sorell to buy some pinafores for Louis; we then went to M^{rs} Dawson's, where we sat some time. On my return, I found D^r Hadley here. We were good friends today; he is a dear, amiable man.

Marianne called this morning, & gave me a trinket for my Birthday, ie. "Faith, Hope, and Charity". The Misses ~~Sorell~~ Sorell came to tea; and worked for me. Miss Buckland sat some time in the afternoon with me, & was telling me some grievances of her's. I attempted a ride with D^r Hadley & M^r Clarke; but it rained too heavily. How I shall regret this place! My eyes ache, so I must to bed.

³⁸¹ Gordon Allport (1845-1850), son of Joseph and Mary Morton Allport (q.v.).

³⁸² 671-ton convict transport, commanded by James Raitt, arrived VDL 14 Nov. after departing Portland 12 Aug. The *William Jardine* carried 260 male prisoners and 30 pensioners.

November 18th Monday. ... I went for a ride with D^r Hadley. Just before dinner, I found M^r & M^{rs} Sharland, and M^r Clarke in the Drawing Room; & W.C. went down to the Cottage with them to dinner: so D^r MacWharrie & I dined alone. It is nine weeks since D^r Hadley passed the evening with me; & we used to have such nice little chats! Well, we shall soon have none. [...]

November 20th Wednesday. After breakfast I went into M^r E. Bedford's; cut some flowers, had a chat with the Papa, & petted the son. Next came lessons: then came my "Refresher", D^r Hadley: and after luncheon, the Misses Sorell. I asked them to come & dine with us, which they did; and Miss Buckland & M^r Clarke came in, in the evening. ... Separation has taken place in Port Phillip, so M^r LaTrobe will now have his own sway there.³⁸³ ...

November 22nd ~~Saturday~~ Friday. Yesterday was the most unpleasantly windy, dusty, hot day I've experienced for many a month. I ventured to Miss Scott's in the afternoon, and found both she & her sister at home; so there I sat, for fully an hour. ...

This morning I went to Lewis' with Misses Sorell & Buckland, and bought towelling, etc for the Voyage. This afternoon M^r & M^{rs} Bishop called to look over the House: = and after they had gone, Mess^{rs} Johnston & Clarke & Captain Deering, came. We all went for a ride. D^r Hadley dined here.

November 24th Sunday. My Birthday. Before I rose this morning I had a dear little note from D^r Hadley, speaking as usual, all & everything that is affectionate & kind: and asking me to wear the handsome diamond ring he has given me.

Louis went to Church with the Priaulx's; & D^r Hadley & Captⁿ Pratt came to luncheon. I walked with the latter to M^{rs} Frazer's, & sat there some time. She is much better.

Whilst I was out, W.C. came home: Edward told him that Jones had been taken to the Watch-house last night; & that he & William (M^r Dry's servant) had been taken, fighting! Before he expressed any sorrow for loss of his Cook, he said "And which got the best of it"? It is so thoroughly characteristic! ...

³⁸³ The British Act of Parliament separating Port Phillip from New South Wales was signed by Queen Victoria on 4 Aug. 1850; news reached Australia some 14 weeks later. Charles La Trobe (see entry 19 Dec. 1846) was appointed the first lieutenant-governor of the colony in 1851.

Yesterday W.C. drove M^r Clarke & Annie up to New Norfolk; the latter is gone to stay with M^{rs} Marriott. W.C. goes up again tomorrow to New Norfolk, to a Pic-Nic. D^r Hadley took Miss Buckland & I for a ride; the latter dined with me. D^r MacWharrie came in the evening, & sat until 3 o'clock! He took out my corn; & then amused himself tickling my foot. He really is a Dangerous man. ...

December 1st Saturday A week has passed since I wrote in this, and so quickly too! On Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, I had my arm in a sling, having a bad gathering in the fore finger of my right hand: it was a great loss to me just now, as I'm rather busy. But I've had a still greater loss, in the society of dear D^r Hadley, who has kept his bed since Wednesday; he has the Mumps. I sent M^r E. Bedford to see him, as I knew he was the only person, whose opinion he values in the way of medecine. ...

Yesterday M^{rs} Roberts passed the afternoon with us; at least W.C. took the children & her for a drive of two hours, & I was glad to remain at home. M^r Clarke came & sat with me all the time; & the Misses Sorell part of it. Augusta is doing a slipper for me, of the Fox' head pattern.³⁸⁴ Mary Scott is netting me something for my head. ...

When my finger was painful, I got old Catharine to brush my hair; so she was saying she hoped I should meet her old Master in England – that his name was Plumbridge, that he was well connected; = “&,” she added; “he was in the House of Commons when I left, so I suppose by this time he is in the House of Lords, for I know he has good interest”! I consider this very good; but there [is] a better story, almost, told of Lady Pedder³⁸⁵ & M^{rs} Spode,³⁸⁶ which I must relate. These two Ladies went to a Pic-Nic in the Steamer *Derwent*, and happened to be seated next to each other. Lady Pedder commenced talking about the beauty of the Scenery, etc. M^{rs} Spode answered “Yes, Lady Pedder”; “Very much so, Lady Pedder”; for some time: at last she said “I think Lady Pedder, we have never been introduced to each other”? “No!” responded her Ladyship; [“] but that makes no difference, M^{rs} Spode, as I've known you so long as an old Colonist”! “Yes, but it

³⁸⁴ Not identified.

³⁸⁵ Maria, née Everett (1787-1855), wife of Sir John Lewes Pedder (1793-1859), the first Chief Justice of VDL.

³⁸⁶ Maria Middlemore, née Garner, wife of Josiah Spode (see entry 11 Aug. 1849).

does signify Lady Pedder,” said M^{rs} Spode, “the usages of Society require an introduction, therefore let me introduce you to M^{rs} Spode”; Lady Pedder”! – and at the same time she gave a bend to her much astonished neighbour. ...

December 3rd Tuesday. Regatta-day – When William went a little before 1 o’clock to the Meeting of the Nobility & gentry, I drove to see dear D^r Hadley, with him & M^r Curll. The Invalide looks exceedingly delicate; but I was so glad to see his old kind face again!

I walked home; & D^r MacWharrie came in soon after. When the Carriage returned, I drove out to see M^{rs} Curll. She is looking well, & Baby is quite fat. Called on my way, to see M^{rs} Stonor, who is far from well. ...

There was a shocking accident occurred at the Regatta; one of the sailing boats went down with all her crew, 9 persons; & only two Bodies were found; one of whom died soon after. Poor souls! in the midst of riot & merriment, to sink into Eternity without a moment’s warning.³⁸⁷
...

December 8th Sunday. I’ve not been in spirits or humour to write in this book for the past week; D^r Hadley has been seriously ill, & therefore I have taken very little pleasure in anything. ...

The *Windermere*³⁸⁸ came in today; Captⁿ Tylee³⁸⁹ arrived in her, & dined with us. He is very quiet, and seems in bad health & spirits. Mess^{rs} Clarke & Johnston & Captⁿ Deering dined with us; Miss Buckland came in the evening; & they did not leave until 12 o’clock. I had a queer little chat for one minute with him, whilst Miss Buckland went up for her parasol; & in that minute more was said than I ever heard him say before! ...

³⁸⁷ Mr J. Petchey’s 10-ton schooner *British Queen* disappeared during a sailing race. The details of the event were obscure as the accident occurred in a “heavy squall” which “obscured the [competing] vessels momentarily from the spectators on the Judges stand.” One man was pulled to safety but the other eight crew members perished. Only the body of Mr Petchey was recovered (*Courier* 7 Dec. 1850). The jury at the Coroner’s inquest delivered a verdict of “accidental death” but at the same time was critical of the other crews. In their opinion “had proper exertions been used ...some of the men might have been saved” (*Courier* 14 Dec. 1850).

³⁸⁸ 600-ton barque, commanded by James Clunies Ross departed Plymouth 21 Aug. 1850 arrived Hobart Town 8 Dec. 1850.

³⁸⁹ D.W.Tylee, Royal Engineer Corps was William’s replacement.

December 10th Tuesday. Yesterday William drove D^r Hadley out a little way in the Domain, & then here. He looks so ill! and is sadly reduced in his strength. He remained here some time; & I was so pleased to see him again. ... The *Emma* is in, & I may expect letters from Robert Massie.

The Slippers are finished, & I shall leave them with M^r Macdonald for D^r Hadley. ...

December 18th Wednesday. I arrived at the Deanery only yesterday; but found all my friends here quite well, in fact looking better than I have, seen them for years. M^r Davies kindly came for me to M^{rs} Chiene's, to whose house I had gone immediately on my reaching Perth, by the Mail. ...

The evening I arrived, there was a musical Party; & I was thoroughly fatigued. The following day The Bishop & his wife left for Illawarra;³⁹⁰ M^r Woodcock³⁹¹ made me sing 4 hours, without ceasing, & then rode off to dine at Illawarra. Next day there was a meeting of the Clergy; and we dined 13 at the Parsonage. M^r T. Reiby³⁹² was there, with dear "Harold";³⁹³ the latter looks very well. At ½ past 4 o'clock, Miss Walker came for me, and I went over to Rhodes, where I remained, until Maria came in the evening on her way home from Perth – where she had taken the Bishop to meet the Coach; & she brought back W.C. who had come from Hobart Town by the Coach. M^r Dry was on it, too; and he had yet to learn the sad news of his sister, M^{rs} Richardson's sudden death on the previous day.³⁹⁴ M^{rs} Lyttleton, when she heard of it, said "What troubles that family have had; they were always an irreligious set"! I wondered to hear her say such a thing; for has not her family been very much Afflicted, & are they too, irreligious?

How lightly we talk of our Neighbours – & at the same time don't think of our own Sins & transgressions. Is this our Saviour's creed?

I left the Deanery on Friday Morning, after a melancholy parting with my friends there: it will be many a day before I make such other ones; they have been so thro' "Evil report, & good

³⁹⁰ Property of Edward Dumaesq (1802-1906) (see entry 3 Dec. 1846).

³⁹¹ Not identified.

³⁹² Thomas Reibey (1821-1912) (see entry 8 Mar. 1850).

³⁹³ Not identified.

³⁹⁴ Eliza, wife of Dr James Richardson.

report”³⁹⁵ – always affectionate, trusting & faithful. May they have all the happiness which it is possible for Mortals to enjoy. [...]

December 26th Thursday. Yesterday morning I took the children to Church, and heard the Bishop preach. In the afternoon D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} Johnston, Clarke & Dry; Captains Tylee & Deering came in to wish me a “merry Christmas”: and M^r Stonor, to say Adieu. They all remained until nearly 4 o’clock, when D^r Hadley & I went out to the Gardens; & eat Cherries to a desperate degree. ...

Today the *Havannah* came in; & as it was nearly 2 o’clock when she did so, Dr Hadley went off to entertain his friend D^r Shanks; & I’ve seen nothing of him since, excepting as D^r MacWharrie & I returned from our ride, when we saw 4 of the Officers walking up the Street, in a row. W.C. dined with him; and M^r Dry dined with me: he is in very low spirits on account of his sister’s death. My head & spirits were both bad; & I was but a melancholy companion, I fear.³⁹⁶
...

December 31st Tuesday. ... There was a very large party at Mess this evening, 48 in number. The Governor & General dined there. Oh! I’ve never once mentioned the arrival of the “Havannah”, with Gen^l & M^{rs} & Miss Wynyard; Captⁿ Wynyard, D^r Shanks, (a very nice person –) and Col: Mundy. The latter is staying at D^r Dawson’s; & so infatuated is M^{rs} Dawson with him, that she has never asked W.C. or I to her house since his arrival, because the former did not call on him. And I suppose she will come & see me when he goes = & I in return shall tell her a piece of my mind.

³⁹⁵ From 2 Corinthians 6:8.

³⁹⁶ *HMS Havannah* commanded by Captain Erskine arrived from Sydney with the following official visitors: Major-General Edward Buckley Wynyard, C.B., General-in Chief of the Australian Colonies; Capt. Wynyard, Military Secretary, Lt-Col Godfrey Charles Mundy, Deputy Adjutant-General; Dr Shanks, Principal Medical Officer and Mrs and Miss Wynyard. Mundy, a cousin of Sir Charles FitzRoy, is the author of *Our Antipodes: or, Residence and Ramblings in the Australian Colonies* (1852). The arrival of the vessel was a very public affair: guns were fired from the *Havannah* and the local Battery, and the guests were received by Colonel Despard, Major Ainsworth, Chester Wilmott (A.D.C.) and a guard of honour of the 99th Foot. The *Courier* reports that a “great many persons were present.” To add to the spectacle the vessel’s arrival coincided with a procession of one thousand Sunday School children representing all denominations to the Domain for an afternoon of games (28 Dec. 1850).

The Year ends less happily, than it has passed. I have certainly been happy often during 1850 = & too often allowed myself to forget that it must pass, & that very soon! ...

D^r MacWharrie sat with me, & saw the “old Year out, & the New One, in”. – After hearing the Bells ringing, the guns firing, the Bands playing, & the people shouting, I said “Good morning” to my friend – left him standing in the hall – & retired to bed.

And so ends my last Year in the Colony! Where will my next be, I wonder?

1st of January 1851 Wednesday. In the afternoon I went for a ride with D^r Hadley, but came home in time to dress the Chicks, who were to go to Government House at 6 o’clock. I did not go there until nearly 10; – & was detained later than I should otherwise have been, by poor Annie’s coming home, not at all well. The first part of the evening I danced with D^r Hadley, & was very happy. He went home about Eleven, & I did not know it, or I should have gone too. M^r Austin³⁹⁷ was very attentive, & I put him down delightfully, as he himself acknowledged! He is very easily silenced.

The room was very prettily arranged; the Tree very good; the ladies looked well and those who danced, merry. Misses Lewis and Sorell were the Belles I think. The room was surprisingly hot! I never so much felt heat before, in my life, whilst dancing. I left with M^{rs} Mason at ½ past 12 o’clock.

January 3rd Friday. ... We went tonight to a Large Dance at M^{rs} Burgess’; it was a very agreeable party & I left with D^r Hadley a little after 12.

January 6th Monday. Yesterday our friends D^r Hadley, Captains Tylee & Deering, Mess^{rs} Johnston & Clarke, & D^r MacWharrie dined with us, for the last time, here. I felt very sad; especially as I fancy I shall not see them again: and if I do, is it of any good? They left late; nobody wishing to say “Good Night” first.

Miss Buckland dined with us on the previous day; & in the afternoon, D^r Hadley drove M^r Macdonald & I to M^r Bicheno’s, to eat cherries: and where we found some sixty persons assembled. ... I heard from Port Fairy; & received the £40; but M^r Baxter will not sign the Deed

³⁹⁷ An officer of the 99th Foot.

which I sent him: however, I have the two drafts, and the Bond for £2000 = so I must live very quietly on it. ...

23rd of January – On board the *Calcutta*;³⁹⁸ and fairly underweigh for old England. It was this day 16 years I landed in Hobart Town; this is Annie's birthday, and Ada's. I little imagined when I went to Van Diemen's Land, with what regret I should leave it! that I should feel as tho' there was nothing in any part of the World beyond it, to delight me! But so it is; & I hope time even, will not make me think otherwise.

My journal has not had any place in my mind = for first of all leaving the Colony, then Sea sickness – have quite engrossed my attention, and so I must gradually make it up, at odd times.

We left on the 15th inst: and are getting on famously in our Voyage. M^r & M^{rs} Maclean, & family; D^r Andrews R.N. M^r Boyce, and our selves, are the only Passengers. As yet, we have had rough weather – but nothing very astonishing; the Ship is very quiet & comfortable; the table first-rate; the Captain, exactly as he is on Shore, which is saying everything. ...

I have a great deal to write up, as the few days previous to sailing I was so hurried, and so truly miserable, that I could scarcely settle to anything. "Parting", is a word very easily said, & felt and done! But with me it is quite otherwise. I certainly have made during my sojourn in the Australian Colonies, some most valuable and valued friends! Yet when the time came to go, I only felt one regret; I only wished to be constantly with One; I then felt how truly that one was entwined round my heart, & how fruitless any enjoyment for the future would & will be, unless that one dearly loved individual participated in it with me, to procure any actual joy.

We came on board on Wednesday morning, the 15th inst: The previous Night we had gone to a Dance at the 99th Mess; it was very well attended; The Governor & Lady Denison, Gen^l & M^{rs} Wynyard, etc were there. It was a delightful party; I was so grieved to think I was seeing so many good friends for the last time; & this was the only drawback.

At 2 o'clock, or later, I went with D^r Hadley to his room, & sat there some time: he has everything so snug, and so like what he is – a gentleman. When we rejoined the *Monde*, most of the

³⁹⁸ The 484-ton barque *Calcutta* departed Hobart Town for London 15 Jan. 1851. It carried a general cargo and 16 passengers.

ladies had left, in fact all gone but the Misses Sorell; We found the Gentlemen in the Supper room, at the table, drinking William's health, in the most enthusiastic manner; & whilst we two stood by the Window, M^r Johnston proposed mine. All this was very flattering – especially when I knew that it was love & friendship which prompted it. W.C. and Augusta walked off to our house; Ada with her Papa, (who seemed to be led away in the most extraordinarily unselfish manner, wherever his daughters chose to take him!) and Captⁿ Deering gave me his arm, whilst M^r Johnston, who was on the other side, spoke in the most affectionate manner of the sorrow he felt in seeing me go. He left us at the Gate; & D^r Hadley joined us, and we all walked up to finish packing. The rooms looked so melancholy, without furniture, and what few things there were in them, all strewn in every direction.

After all was finished, the young ladies went home. M^r Clarke went down to change his dress, and the rest of us, 4 in number, were joined by M^r Dry, & we soon went down to the latter's house, where we had breakfast.

The Réveill  beat before we left the Barracks; & M^r Austin was sitting by me when it sounded. After d jeun  we drove down to M^r Sorell's; Captⁿ Deering & D^r Hadley walked back to the Barracks from M^r Dry's: and I saw there for the last time, at all events for months, my dearest, kindest, most indulgent friend

We did not long remain on at M^r Sorell's; M^r Dry & M^r Clarke walked down to the Wharf; whilst W.C. drove Louis & myself there. Harefield was there with Ada; & we all got into the boat and went on board the *Calcutta*. Mess^{rs} Akers, Austin, Macdonald, D^r MacWharrie were already there awaiting us: M^r Roberts too, with Annie. They all left early, excepting Mess^{rs} Clarke, L. Smith, Roberts & Dry – who went to Brown's River with us, and walked up from there to H. Town. Poor Richard! his feelings suffered very much on the occasion; & I began to see that the old and first Love, was above all others, even yet. God forgive us both; and especially myself for misunderstanding him so egregiously as I now appear to have done.

BIOGRAPHICAL DIRECTORY

This directory follows Frost's practice in *The Journal of Annie Baxter Dawbin, 1858-1868* in that it includes entries for members of the Hadden and Baxter families mentioned in the text, and those families and friends who feature prominently in the journal sections abridged here.

Information about other people mentioned in the diary but who do not develop as characters is given as a footnote. The directory includes details of birth, death and marriage, names of parents and children, and if applicable the date of arrival in Australia. In each case the detail included is dependent on available information. Where appropriate, details about lives, careers and the fortunes of families are included, along with information that illuminates the world of the journal or clarifies an individual or family's connection to AB (587). In most cases entries have a family orientation, insofar as comprehensive information about the family is given for only one family member and when others are mentioned, attention is drawn to the initial entry. This approach is justified on the grounds that family connections are integral to the colonial world depicted here and in many cases the family's role in the journal is as important as that of an individual. This is particularly the case for the Archer, Cox and Youl families with whom Annie interacts on a regular basis on her first visit to Van Diemen's Land.

An attempt has been made to identify all people mentioned in the text. Information about many of those mentioned was available in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, while others were identified from various Tasmanian almanacs and directories published in the nineteenth century, as well as newspapers. The extensive name indexes compiled by the Archives Office of Tasmania, which are readily searchable online, provided information about lesser known figures mentioned in the journal and in some cases this resource was instrumental in clarifying certain family connections.

Allen, Jessie. B. 1821, third, and youngest, daughter of George Allan of Allan Vale, near Launceston, and sister to Margaret Pringle (m. Patrecius Welsh 1832), Isabella, George and John (b. c.1824), married Henry Wilson Hutchinson Smythe on 19 Feb. 1841 at Launceston, widowed in

1854 after Smythe drowned in the Broken River, Shepparton, Victoria. AB maintained contact with Jessie for a number of years. In 1854 AB and Jessie travelled in Europe together. The family was adversely affected by financial dealings in the 1840s. AB on meeting Mrs Allan in 1845 was distressed to hear that the family was “very poor ... having lost all by others villainy” (2 Mar. 1845).

Archer, Susannah (known as Susan). B. 12 Nov.1801 at Port Jackson, NSW, third daughter of James Hortle, a private in the New South Wales Corps, and his wife Ann (née Wild). Married Thomas Archer (q.v.) on 12 Dec. 1816. Children of this union: Thomas William (b. 1817, m. Mary Abbott 1839, d. 1844), William (b. 1820, m. cousin Ann Hortle 1846, d. 1874), Martha Elizabeth (b. 1821, m. Robert Quayle Kermode 1839, d. 1853), Joseph (b. 1823, m. Ann Weston 1852, d. 1914), Eleanor [Ellen] (b. 1824, m. Alfred Stackhouse 1843, d. 1898), Susan Ann (b.1825, m. John Stewart Kilgour 1847) and Maria (b. 1838, d. 1928). Susan died at Longford in 1875. Ian Morison remarks on her dominance and describes her as a “matriarchal figure” who raised her “children in a family circle that admitted few outsiders” (208).

Archer, Thomas. B. 3 April 1790, fourth but second surviving son of William Archer (1754-1833), miller of Hertford, England and his wife Martha, née Kensey, arrived VDL 1813 from Sydney, appointed clerk in charge of the commissariat at Port Dalrymple (Launceston). He married Susannah Hortle at Launceston in 1816 and continued in government service until 1821, after which time he retired to manage his considerable landholdings near Longford. In 1826 he was appointed a member of the first Legislative Council and remained a member until 1845 when he resigned due to ill-health. He died 16 Oct.1850 at Woolmers, which at that time incorporated 12,271 acres (4966 hec.) In addition he also owned Fairfield (12,061 acres [4881 hec.]) and Cheshunt (9,940 acres [4022 hec.]) (Chick 97). Woolmers was inherited by his grandson, Thomas William, son of his first-born son, Thomas, who died from Scarletina in 1844; another son, William (1820-1874), educated in England and a noted colonial architect and naturalist, inherited Cheshunt; Fairfield passed to his youngest son Joseph. In the 1820s Archer was joined in VDL by his brothers – Joseph (1795-1853), William (1787-1879) and Edward (1793-1862) – and his

father William. Joseph built Panshanger while William established Brickendon on land adjacent to Woolmers. Thomas Archer's obituary describes his mind as "active, enquiring [and] intelligent" and his affections as "warm and enduring" and acknowledges that in public life "he was consistent, liberal, and energetic." He was considered "exemplary as a friend, as a husband, and a parent" and a generous philanthropist (*Launceston Examiner* 19 Oct. 1850).

Baxter, Andrew. B. 7 Dec. 1813 at Lisbon, Portugal. First husband of AB, whom he married 7 Feb. 1834. Son of Benjamin Baxter and his second wife Barabara Woods, and half-brother to Benjamin Baxter (q.v.). He entered the army in 1831 as an ensign by purchase and joined the 50th Foot in 1833. He served in the Australian colonies between 1835 and 1839. In VDL 1835-1838 and Sydney, NSW until July 1839 when he resigned his commission to take up land in the Macleay River District of New South Wales. Travelled to Yambuk (near Portland, Vic.) in 1844, and remained on this 10,000-acre property until 1851, when it was sold. He died 21 Jan. 1855 at Emerald Hill, a suburb of Melbourne, reportedly "by his own hand" (AB Journal 22 May 1855; Frost, *Face* 196), however his death certificate gives the cause of death as cerebritis. He died a wealthy man but for some years he had been shunned by polite society (Frost, *Face* 196).

Baxter, Benjamin. Older and only brother of AB's husband Andrew Baxter (q.v.), and son of Benjamin Baxter, a quartermaster of the 50th Foot, and his first wife, Martha Holden. B. 28 Oct. 1806, at Fermoy, County Cork, Ireland. Entered the army as an ensign without purchase in his father's regiment in 1825 and became a lieutenant by purchase in 1826. He served in NSW from May 1837 until Feb. 1838 when he resigned his commission to pursue business and administrative interests in Port Phillip. He was among the twenty-three gentlemen listed as subscribers to the newly formed Melbourne Club in 1838 but his subscription lapsed during the depression years of the 1840s. He married Martha Ainsler (1813-1906) and was the father of eight daughters and one son (Frost *Face* 307). The journal indicates that he and his brother shared some business interests in the 1840s. Relations between AB and her husband's brother appeared fraught for much of the life of the journal. Following the death of Andrew, Benjamin was granted Letters of Administration by the Supreme Court of the Colony of Victoria, which entitled him to

administer his brother's estate. He died on 15 May 1892, at his property Carrup Carrup, Baxter's Flat (now Baxter) on the Mornington Peninsula, Victoria.

Bedford, Edward Samuel Pickard. B. 1809, London, arrived VDL 31 Jan. 1823 with his parents William Bedford and Martha, née Pickett, studied medicine in London in 1831 and returned to VDL in 1833 where he took up the position of Assistant Colonial Surgeon First Class, with the right of private practice. Established the subscription hospital St Mary's in 1841, initially in rented premises before completion of a 60-bed hospital on the corner of Davey St and Salamanca Place (Brown, *Poverty* 46). Successful in his professional life, he was a prominent member of the Royal Society, knowledgeable about art and an enthusiastic and early collector of local art. In the 1850s he attempted unsuccessfully to establish a medical school in Hobart and was an elected politician for a short time. He married Mary Selby of Wilmington, Kent in Hobart on 14 Jan. 1836. The two had a family of eight sons and three daughters and lived at Hawthorneden (now St Anne's Nursing Home) in Davey St. In 1863 he left Hobart for Sydney where he continued his active involvement in medical and community affairs. He died in Sydney on 24 Feb. 1876.

Bedford, Mary. The former Mary Selby of Wilmington, Kent, married Edward Samuel Pickard Bedford (q.v.) on 14 Jan. 1836. Between 1838 and 1855 she gave birth to eleven children: Virginia Mary (1838), Eleanor de Gillern (1839), Edward Pedder (1841), Emilie Mainwaring (1842), William James (1844), Sydney (1846), Alfred Percival (1848), Cecil William (1852), M (1852), Leslie John (1854), Rupert John (1855).

Briggs, William. (1798-1859) AB's brother-in-law, officer of the 50th foot, married Hannah (b.1808), sister of Andrew Baxter, on 2 Oct. 1826 at Kingston, Jamaica, arrived NSW in 1834. According to AB, Hannah died from "ossification of the heart" in Aug. 1837 (16 Sep. 1837). She was survived by her husband and three children: William Clarence (1827-1865), Maria (b. 1829) and Frederick. Briggs resigned his commission in 1839 to take up land in the McLeay River District, where AB and Baxter also took up land. Briggs was a poor farmer and his property failed to prosper. AB regarded him as a "sympathizing friend" ([] July 1841). Maria often stayed with

AB at Yesabba; on one occasion AB was obliged to send her home so that she “should not hear the dreadful language that was made use of by her Uncle” ([] July 1841).

Browne, Thomas Alexander (Tom) [Rolf Boldrewood]. B. 16 Aug. 1826 in London, the eldest child of Sylvester John Browne and his wife Elizabeth née Angell. The Browne family arrived in NSW in 1831. Tom was educated at Sydney College, NSW, and in 1844 leased a cattle run on the Eumerella in the Portland district, which he named Squattlesea Mere and which was close to the Baxter’s property Yambuk. He was joined at Squattlesea Mere by his parents and six sisters in 1846 following his father’s financial ruin. He left the property in 1858, married Margaret Riley in 1860, and continued grazing until 1869, after which time he became a government official until his retirement in 1895. His writing career extended over forty years. He was first published in 1866 but did not begin writing in earnest until 1870. His novel *Robbery Under Arms*, was published in weekly segments between July 1882 and Aug. 1883. He continued to write throughout the last decade of the nineteenth and the first decade of the twentieth century. He died in 1915.

Buckland, Elizabeth. B. 1817, daughter of Charles Buckland and niece of William Buckland, Dean of Westminster. On 20 Mar. 1852 at St. George’s Church, Battery Point, VDL she married Valentine Fleming (1809-1884), solicitor-general of VDL 1844-1851, attorney-general 1851-1854, after which time he was appointed chief-justice. He held this position until his retirement in 1870. Elizabeth had three children: Valentine Andrew (b.1853), Henry Stane (1856) and Eliza Emma (1858-1860). She died in 1872. Valentine Fleming was knighted in 1856. AB (then Annie Dawbin) resumed contact with Elizabeth Buckland, then Lady Fleming, following her return to Australia in 1858.

Burnett, John. B. 8 Sep. 1781 at Peterculter, Aberdeenshire, arrived VDL Nov. 1826 with his wife Penelope Isabella (b. 1785) third daughter of “convict adventurer” Sir Henry Browne Hayes (1762-1832) and nine children to take up the position of first colonial secretary of VDL. P.R. Eldershaw comments that he was initially a “conscientious” if not brilliant administrator but that he was quickly overwhelmed by the task before him. In 1832 he took several months sick leave

and was later involved in a deception regarding land regulations which forced his return to England to argue his case. He was offered the position of sheriff of VDL in 1841 but did not take up the position until Jan. 1843. He remained as sheriff until 1855 when he was deemed incompetent and forced to retire. He died of influenza 10 July 1860 at his residence in Hobart; his wife had predeceased him by ten years. Throughout his life he was plagued with financial difficulties which Eldershaw attributes to a lack of business sense and his large family. On his death his estate was divided amongst his unmarried daughters Charlotte (b.1814), Marianne Jane Campbell (1823-70) and Mrs Henrietta Patricia White (AOT AD960/1/5) (She had first married Major Sholto Douglas.) Burnett had two other daughters: one of whom married a Captain Chapman of the *Woodford* in Sydney in Dec. 1826 and Mary Gascoigne (b. 1809) who married Reverend Dr John Lillie in 1838. Three of his sons John Cartwright Burnett, James Ludovich and Robert Edward lived in Hobart at various times. A fourth son was reportedly an army officer. There were nine children of the union. Lucy Frost describes him as “a man of constant complaint, official and otherwise” (*Journal* 319).

Clarke, Andrew. Royal Engineer and friend of AB and William Hadden. B. 24 July 1824 in England, eldest son of Andrew Clarke, Governor of Western Australia (1846-1847), and his wife Frances Jackson. He arrived in VDL in Jan. 1847 with Sir William Denison. His father was the governor of Western Australia at the time. He left VDL in Sep. 1848 for a tour of duty with Sir George Grey in New Zealand and returned in 1849, assuming the role of Denison’s Private Secretary following the death of Charles Stanley in 1850. He was a “conscientious and tactful” assistant to Denison and a friendship developed between them. He left the colony in 1853 for Victoria following his appointment as Surveyor-General. He entered the Victorian Legislative Council in 1853. He returned to England in 1858, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-general before his retirement from the Royal Engineers in 1886. He was knighted in 1873. He was ambitious, able, energetic, intelligent and popular and acquitted himself with distinction in his many government undertakings. He died in London on 29 Mar. 1902, survived by his only child

Elinor Mary de Winton. His wife, Mary Margaret MacKillop, whom he had married in 1867, predeceased him (*ADB*).

Cox, James. B. 1 Nov. 1790 at Devizes in Wiltshire, the second son of William Cox, later of Clarendon, Hawkesbury, NSW, educated in England before joining his parents in NSW in 1806. Married Mary Connell in 1812 and moved to VDL in 1814. Soon after arrival he was granted 1300 acres at Morven (now Evandale) near Launceston, which he named Clarendon. He established a successful merchant business and became a prominent pastoralist. He commenced building a large stone mansion at Clarendon in the late 1830s which replaced his first abode. Augustus Prinsep visited in 1833 and describes a substantial residence, large enough to accommodate Cox's sizeable family as well as guests (93-4). Mary Connell and James Cox had eight children: two boys, one of whom died in 1830 aged six, and six daughters. AB was friendly with several of James Cox's children: John (b. 1814, m. his cousin Frances Cox 1837, d. 1853), Rebecca (b.1814, m. Walter Glas Chiene 1840, d. 1870), Mary (b. 1816, m. Christian de Villiers 1834, d. 1835), Jane (b. 1819, m. Claude Fairie 1845, d.1863), Elizabeth (b. 1822, m. George Winter 1843), Agatha (b. 1823, m. 1843 James Clerke) and Ann (b. 1826, m. George Bostock 1849, d. 1865). After Mary died in 1828, James married nineteen-year-old Eliza Eddington and fathered a further eight children: seven daughters and one son. He died at Marion Villa, George Town on 16 Mar. 1869. Clarendon was inherited by his grandson James, son of John Cox.

Davies, Maria. B. 1816, loyal friend of AB for many years, daughter of Captain William Lyttleton, late 73rd Regiment of Foot, police magistrate at Launceston and his wife Ann (née Hortle). Married Rev. Robert Rowland Davies (q.v.) 26 Feb. 1833. Niece of Susan Archer (q.v.). Mother of Rowland Lyttleton Davies b. 1837, Maria Annie Susan b. 1843, Emma b. 1845, Mary b. 1849. In the 1830s she lived at Pinefield, Longford, a home built by her father but sold to the government as a parsonage for the Anglican Church. Jane Williams in a letter to her mother described Maria and her husband as "nice superior people; she interesting and kind; He amusing like all his countrymen and very like a gentlemen" (Brown, *Clyde* 2:33).

Davies, Reverend Rowland. Husband of Maria Davies (q.v), b. 15 Sept. 1805 at Northgate Barracks, Canterbury England, educated at Trinity College, Dublin and University of St. Andrews, Scotland and ordained deacon in Sep. 1828. Appointed chaplain to VDL 1829, arrived Apr. 1830 and assigned to Norfolk Plains. Davies and family sailed to England in 1840, but returned to VDL in July 1841. He was appointed Rural Dean in 1844 and Vicar-General and Commissary (1846-1850), and held the position of archdeacon of Launceston from 1850 until 1854, after which time he was appointed archdeacon of Hobart – a position he held until Sep. 1866 when declining health forced his resignation. He died at Hobart on 13 Nov. 1880. He was an active, enthusiastic and well-liked man, instrumental in building churches at both Longford and Perth, as well as actively involved in education, becoming an inspector of schools at Longford and a trustee of the Hutchins School in 1853.

Dry, Richard. Prominent politician, landowner and businessman, with whom AB was romantically involved in the 1830s, was b. 20 Sept. 1815 at Elphin Farm, near Launceston, the elder son of Richard Dry (1771-1843), an Irish political prisoner transported in 1800 and his wife Anne (née Maugham). Richard and Anne had four other children: Harriet (b. 1811, m. Thomas Landale 1825), Eliza (b. 1811, m. Dr James Richardson 1838, d. 1851), William (b. 1819) and Ellen (b.1823, m. Colonel Rodham Catherine David Home 1843) (Baker 42). Richard Dry Senior was appointed storekeeper at Port Dalrymple in 1807 and pardoned after his marriage in 1809 to Anne Maugham who was a free woman. Dry became a substantial landowner and was a respected member of the Launceston community. At the time of his death in 1843 he owned 30,000 acres at Quamby Plains and Elphin. Young Richard was educated in VDL and in 1836 travelled to India and Mauritius. Following his return to the colony early in 1837 he became interested in politics. He was appointed a Commissioner of the Peace in 1837 and a member of the Legislative Council in 1844 but resigned in Oct. 1845 as one of the “patriotic six”: a group of appointed councillors who refused to approve funding from colonial revenue to maintain the Police and Gaols Department that administered the convict system in the colony. This action rendered Dry a local hero, and on his return to Launceston shortly after his resignation he was met “by an immense

cavalcade, and conducted to his hotel with every demonstration of popular esteem” (Button 280). Dry, along with his colleagues, was persuaded to return to the Council in 1847. He became active in the anti-transportation movement and following the introduction of representative government in 1851, he was elected Speaker of the new Legislative Council. He held this position until 1854 when ill-health forced his retirement. In the late 1850s he embarked on an extended visit to England and Europe with his wife Clara (b. 1829), daughter of George and Louisa Meredith of Cambria, Swanport, whom he had married on 27 Apr. 1853 and while in England he became the first Tasmanian-born citizen to receive a knighthood. He returned to politics in 1862, and was premier from 1866 until his death on 1 Aug. 1869. Following his father’s death in 1843 he assumed greater responsibilities for managing the family estates and while at times he experienced financial difficulties, he was remembered as a generous man. He and his wife lived at Quamby until 1856 where they entertained on a lavish scale. Henry Button remembers young Richard Dry as a genial popular man, known affectionately in the north as “Dicky Dry,” who as a “genuine sportsman” took “especial delight” in the “race-course and the hunting field” (279).

Hadden, Anna Maria Elizabeth (Annie). Youngest daughter of William Charles Hadden (q.v) and his wife Bessie, née Jaquier (q.v.), niece of AB, b. 23 Jan. 1844 at Newport England, died aged eight years on 29 Mar. 1852 at Devonport, England after a short illness during which she was attended by her aunt.

Hadden, Elizabeth (Bessie). Wife of William Charles Hadden, b. c.1816, married William 12 Oct. 1833, mother of Wilhelmina Susan [Mina], b. 21 July 1835, Louis James Wainwright, born 17 June 1842, and Anna Maria Elizabeth [Annie], b. 23 Jan. 1844. She died 17 Sep. 1848 in Hobart from consumption. Bessie’s name before marriage was Elizabeth Jacquier. Journal entries indicate that the Jacquier family was wealthy.

Hadden, James. AB’s uncle and guardian following her father’s death in 1821, second son of James Murray Hadden (1760-1817) and his wife, Harriet, née Farrer (1754-1840), and brother of William Frederick (1789-1821), b. 1790. Major in the 3rd (Prince of Wales) Dragoon Guards. He lived at Harpenden Lodge, in the village of Harpenden in Hertfordshire, and Eaton Square in

London and reportedly “married his mistress, a girl of 19 years old” in 1838. AB dismisses this development as “exceedingly vulgar” (28 Apr. 1839) but her sister, after visiting her uncle and his new wife, informs AB that she “likes Mrs J. Hadden very much indeed” (5 May 1840). James provided financial assistance to AB and Baxter throughout their marriage. He died on the 12 Feb. 1846 leaving AB a bequest of £2000 to be invested as an annuity; as Lucy Frost observes this annuity was to “become highly significant [for ABD] as her one regular source of income” (*Journal* 589).

Hadden, Louis James Wainwright. Nephew of AB, and son of William Charles Hadden and his wife Bessie (née Jacquier), b. 17 June 1842, Plymouth, England, joined 23rd Royal Welch Fusiliers, 18 Sep. 1860.

Hadden, William Charles. AB’s brother, b. Dunmore, Galway, 7 Feb. 1813, entered the Royal Engineers on 29 May 1832, married Elizabeth [Bessie] Jacquier 12 Oct. 1833 at Piccadilly, London. William and Bessie had three children: Wilhelmina Susan [Mina], b. 21 July 1835, Louis James Wainwright, b. 17 June 1842, and Anna Maria Elizabeth [Annie], b. 23 Jan. 1844. Bessie died 17 Sep. 1848 in Hobart. William was stationed in the Cape Colony between May 1834 and May 1835, then Canada until 1840. He served in England three years, before coming to Van Diemen’s Land in 1844. On his return to England in 1851 he spent a year there before being posted to Ireland for four years. On 15 Sep. 1853 he married Maria Frances Evans Merryweather. He achieved the rank of general before his retirement from the army in 1881. He died in 1902.

Hadley, Henry. B. 1812, Assistant Staff Surgeon of the 99th Foot, arrived VDL 14 Aug. 1848 with a large detachment of his regiment, married Alpha Clementia (b. 1833), youngest daughter of John Dunn in Hobart on 29 Nov. 1851. Actively involved in horse-racing in Hobart and was often a steward at the New Town Races. Promoted to Staff Surgeon 1st Class 23 Mar. 1855, Chief Medical Officer at Balaclava during the Crimean War where he had attended Florence Nightingale during a serious illness (Frost, *Journal* 589).

Kemp, Anthony Fenn. (c.1773-1868) was the son of Anthony Fader Kemp and Susannah, née Fenn, of Aldgate near London. Kemp arrived in New South Wales in 1795 as an ensign in the

New South Wales Corps and travelled to VDL for the first time in 1804 as second-in-command of the Port Dalrymple settlement (later Launceston); he departed in 1807. After periods in NSW and England he arrived in VDL as a settler in Jan. 1816. He was a successful landowner and a merchant; remembered as a pioneer of the wool industry in VDL as well as a breeder of horses and cattle; he was a foundation director of the Van Diemen's Land Bank and also established the firm Kemp & Gatehouse in Hobart Town. He was frequently at odds with the colonial administration and was a staunch advocate for local representative government. In 1802, in Sydney, he married Elizabeth Riley and together they produced a family of seven sons and eleven daughters, including Elizabeth Julia (mother of Julia, Ada and Augusta Sorrell).

Kemp, Maria. The former Maria Susanna Blackiston (1799-1863), daughter of Susannah Blackiston (1769-1831) who was sister to AB's grandfather James Murray Hadden, married William Kemp (1782-1856) in 1821. Kemp was the commandant at Port Macquarie from 1837 until 1839. The Kemps arrived in NSW with seven children; another two were born in the colony.

Lyttleton, Ann. Mother of AB's friend Maria Davies, older sister of Susan Archer, and daughter of daughter of James Hortle, a private in the New South Wales Corps, and his wife Ann (née Wild). Ann was born towards the end of 1798, and married William Thomas Lyttleton (?1786-1839), a lieutenant in the 73rd Regiment of Foot, who arrived in Launceston in 1810, on 4 January 1812. The family were abroad between June 1814 and October 1825, initially in Ceylon, but after 1821 in England. Following their return to VDL, Lyttleton, now resigned from the army, received land grants near Westbury and in the Meander District, and built two houses: Hagley House at Hagley and Pinefield in Longford, which became the Church of England parsonage in 1830. He was police magistrate in Launceston from 1829 until his retirement in 1835. The Lyttletons sailed to England in 1836 where William died in 1839. Mrs Lyttleton returned to VDL in 1843 and lived with her daughter throughout the 1840s. She died in 1874. Besides Maria she had six other children, her third son Thomas Hamilton (q.v.), born in 1826, was also known to AB, although the two did not always agree.

Lyttleton, Thomas. Third son of William and Ann Lyttleton, brother of Maria Davies, was b. 10 June 1826 in Launceston. He grew up at Hagley and travelled with his parents to England in 1836. He returned to VDL in the 1840s and departed for Victoria late in the decade. In 1852 he joined the Victoria Police Force and in the 1860s he was appointed superintendent of the Melbourne Metropolitan Police Force. He was a member of the Melbourne Club and a notable watercolourist, with an interest in animals and sport. He married Emily Fenton in 1853 and the two had four children: two sons and two daughters. He retired from the police force in August 1874 and died in 1876, aged forty-nine.

McLeod, Catherine. B. 1787 in Scotland, married Major Donald McLeod of Talisker, Scotland in 1806. Catherine and Donald McLeod and seven children: Magnus (1807-1883), Alexander (1808-1886), Catherine Cameron (1811-1899), Johanna Isabella (1812-1894), Janet Georgina Hobart (b. and d. 1813), Margaret Sybilla (1815-1889), John Norman (1816-1886) and Hugh Lawrence (1818-1892) arrived in Hobart Town in 1820. Five more children (Donald James (1820-1883); Marion Christiana Lloyd (1822-1882); Janetta Maria (1824-1887); Hector Allan (1827-1880) and Roderick Mclean (1829-1847) were born in VDL. Donald McLeod was granted 2000 acres (809 hec.) at Perth. The family left VDL for Sydney in 1837 (see entry for 28 May 1837) where Donald died in 1838. AB was reunited with members of this family in Sydney in 1838-1839. She continued to correspond and visit with various family members for many years. Mrs McLeod was sometimes a harsh critic of AB, but at other times proved very supportive. (Biographical details for the McLeod family are taken from Lucy Frost, *The Journal of Annie Baxter Dawbin, 1858-1868*: 593).

McLeod, Marion Christiana Lloyd. B. VDL in 1822, daughter of Catherine McLeod (q.v.) and her husband, Donald, married Mordaunt McLean (1823-1870) at Port Macquarie, NSW in 1844. Marion was the mother of Leyburn (1845-1879), Roderick Hugh (1849-1856), and Mordaunt Alistair (1854-1918). A child born in 1847 died c. 1850. Marion was AB's esteemed friend. She died at Uralla, NSW in 1882 (Frost, *Journal* 592). Her husband Mordaunt worked in various government positions in NSW and Victoria.

Roberts, Mrs Mary Anne. B. 28 Dec. 1822, Leeds, England, daughter of Michael Vicary, 1/63rd (West Suffolk) Regiment of Foot, and his wife Eliza (née Murray), arrived VDL 1828, settled at “Rostrevor” Spring Bay. Mary Anne married solicitor John Roberts (b.1813) in Hobart on 1 May 1841. The Roberts lived at Farie Knowe, 333 Liverpool St, Hobart. Mary Anne had no children. She died 24 May 1903.

Schaw, Major Charles. (1785-1874), educated at Eton, arrived VDL 1833 with the 21st Foot, bringing his wife, Anne Frances, née Cockburn, seven daughters and one son with him. He sold out of the army in 1835, and was Police Magistrate at Bothwell (1833-1841), after that he was Police Magistrate at Richmond until his retirement c. 1856. He returned to England in 1858 and died at Torquay in 1874, while his wife died in 1860. He was an unpopular man criticised for his pretentious and autocratic manner. He built Schawfield, an extravagant house of thirty-seven rooms for a cost of £4000 at Bothwell, but lived on the verge of insolvency. His only son Charles Cockburn (b. 1819) married Ellen Frank, daughter of Matthew Frank of Medaston, VDL, on 24 Jan. 1854. Major Schaw’s eldest daughter Frances Sarah (b. 1816) married William Stanley Sharland (q.v) at Bothwell on 16 Jan. 1835. She died at Plaisance Kelso 16 Mar. 1859. His second daughter Anne Julia married Archdeacon Fitzhubert Adams Marriot 26 Sep. 1848 at Richmond; the third daughter Maria Susan married Edward Butcher of Lowlands 11 Oct. 1853; the sixth daughter Louisa Augusta (b. 1830), married William Wallace Fullarton Murray, Chaplain of Clarence Plains, Feb. 1853. She died in 1878. His youngest daughter Henrietta Barwick Simpson (b. 1833) married William Tancred, Chaplain of Richmond, 28 Oct. 1852. She died in Dorking, England, 21 Oct. 1860. Charles Schaw’s other daughters were possibly named Mary (AB Journal 10 Aug. 1848) and Jane.

Sharland, William Stanley. B. 1801, he was the son of John Sharland and his wife Jane, arrived in VDL with his father and brother, John Frederic, in 1823 and was appointed to the Survey Department where he was praised for his “zeal and perseverance” and promoted accordingly (ADB). He explored the source of the Derwent River and devised town plans for several towns in the Derwent Valley including New Norfolk. He was retrenched from the Survey Department in

1839 and employed as a contract surveyor. He became a significant landowner and a pioneer hop-grower at New Norfolk. William married Frances Sarah, daughter of Major Charles Schaw, in 1835 and the couple had a family of six sons and eight daughters. The family lived at Woodbridge, a substantial home overlooking the Derwent River. Sharland was a frequent visitor to Government House throughout the 1840s and was appointed to the Legislative Council in 1848. AB became friendly with the Sharland and Schaw families when she visited Hobart in the 1840s. William's sister, Anne, married brewer William Barnes of Launceston. His first wife Frances died on 16 March 1859, at Plaisance, Kelso, home of her sister-in-law Ann Whiting (formerly Barnes). Following her death Sharland married Margaret Fyfe of Mount Nod, Surrey. He died 23 October 1877 and was buried at New Norfolk.

Sorell, Julia. Born Hobart 1826, the oldest of five children of William Sorell (1800-1860), and his wife Elizabeth Julia, née Kemp (b. 1808), and granddaughter of William Sorell, Lt-Gov VDL 1817-1824. Julia and her sisters Augusta (b. 1829) and Ada (b.1830) were taken to Europe by their mother in the 1830s following the collapse of her marriage to William Sorell. They were abandoned by their mother and eventually returned to their father. The scandal of her family extended into the previous generation as her grandfather deserted his first wife and six children (of whom Julia's father was the oldest), and arrived in VDL with a Mrs Kent, whom he installed as first lady at Government House. Julia's father, on the other hand, was considered a gentle man and a conscientious public servant. Julia – by all accounts, except possibly AB's – was strikingly beautiful, but she likely shared the tempestuous nature of the less conventional members of her family. Before her marriage to Thomas Arnold (1823-1900), son of Rev. Dr Thomas Arnold, headmaster of Rugby School (1828-42), on 13 June 1850, her name was publicly linked with a number of men, including Lt-Gov. Eardley-Wilmot. Julia had four sons and four daughters, one of whom, Mary Augusta became the novelist Mrs Humphry Ward, while another, Julia Frances was the mother of Julian Sorell Huxley and the novelist Aldous Huxley. Julia and her husband returned to Great Britain in 1856. Julia was an invalid for the last years of her life. She died at

Oxford on 7 Apr. 1888 in a small house on Bradmore Rd where she had been nursed by her youngest daughter Ethel (Bertram 234).

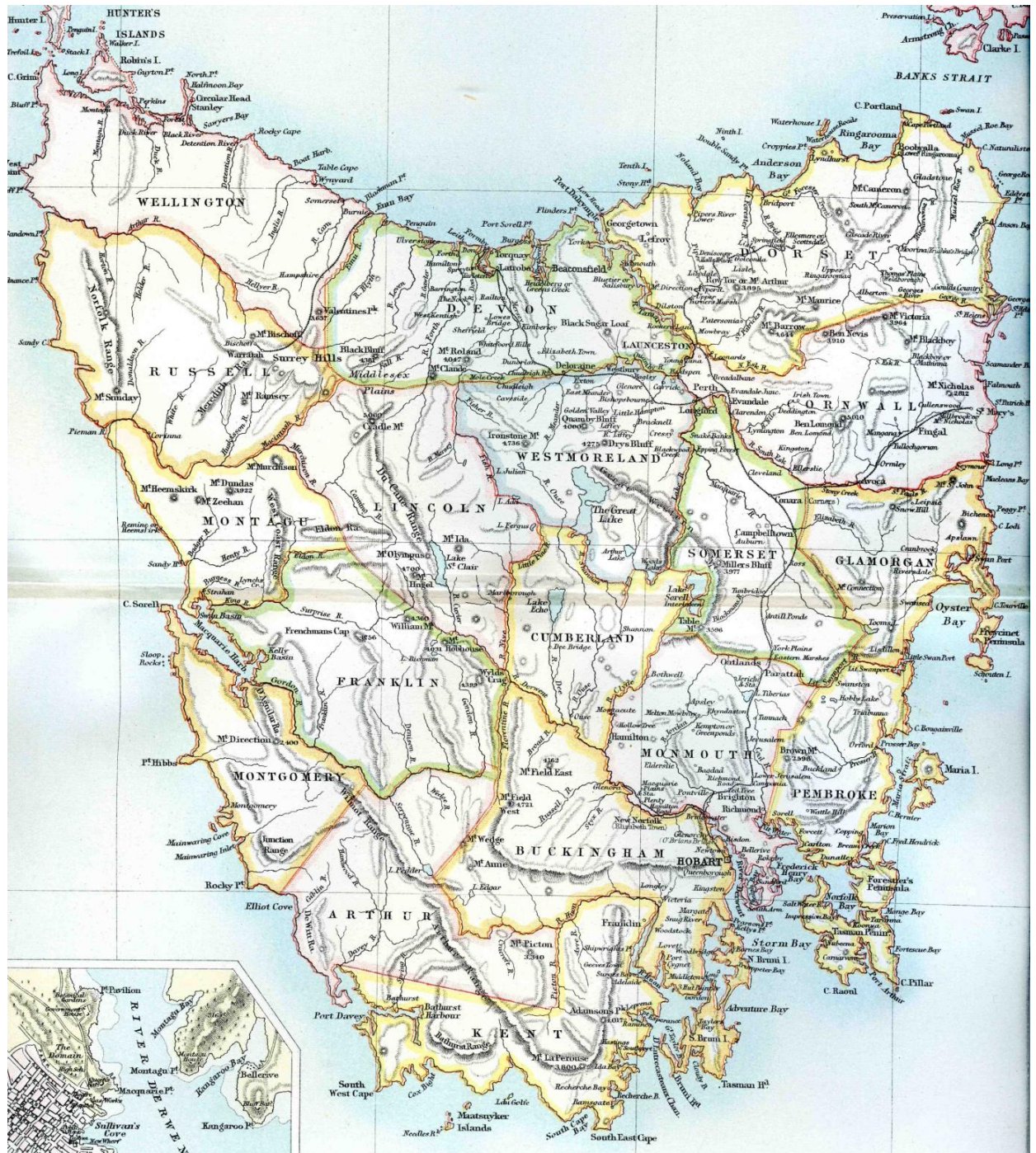
Welman, Major Harvey. B. 1783, first arrived in VDL in the 1820s with the 57th (West Middlesex) Regiment of Foot. He departed VDL in Apr. 1832 aboard the *Norfolk* for India, accompanied by his wife – who was possibly named Mary – and eight children, but was again resident in Mar. 1835, when he was appointed a Justice of the Peace (*HTC* 20 Mar. 1835). The family certainly lived in Launceston during AB's period of residence during the 1830s, but the major likely returned to India where his regiment served until 1840, as the *Courier* of 28 Oct. 1842 reports that Major Welman "an officer of forty years standing" has "again joined his family at Launceston." He received the Peninsular of Military General Service Medal in 1850 and newspaper reports of the day indicate that he was well respected in the community. AB maintained a friendship with Mrs Welman and her children over a number of years but was never very comfortable with the Major. Henry Button describes Harvey Welman as an "Irishman—tall, well-proportioned, with a soldierly bearing, and abounding with ready wit" who had served under Wellington and "for distinguished bravery had been promoted from the ranks" (83). The Major died in 1869 at Launceston.

Woodward, Harriet (Hal, Harry). AB's older sister, b. 19 Sept. 1811 married F. Woodward, a Birmingham solicitor, on 7 Oct. 1834. After her marriage Harriet lived at Wednesbury, eight miles from Birmingham. She was the mother of nine children.

Youl, James. B. 28 Dec. 1810 at Parramatta, NSW, son of Reverend John Youl (1773-1827), missionary and first chaplain appointed to Port Dalrymple (later Launceston) and his wife Jane, née Loder. Educated in England, he returned to VDL in 1827 after his father's death in 1827 to manage the family properties, which at that time amounted to 4,000 acres. James proved a sound businessman and grazier, and successfully increased the family holdings. In 1830s he built a sizeable house on his property, Symmons Plains, which AB visited in 1837 soon after its completion (*Memories* 9). He was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1837. On 9 July 1839 he married Eliza, second daughter of William Cox, Hobartville, Richmond, NSW. James and Eliza

had twelve children: four boys and eight girls. In 1854 the family went to live in England, where he worked, sometimes in a voluntary capacity, to promote the affairs of the colony. He is best remembered for his part in the introduction of trout and salmon to Australasian waters. AB met him in the 1830s in Launceston – where she sometimes playfully referred to him as “Cupid” – and remained friendly with him for many years. She was similarly friendly with his sisters Jane (b. 1815) and Elizabeth (b. 1819), and on occasions referred to them as her “daughters.” His brother Richard (b.1821) at George Town, VDL, was educated in England and qualified as a medical practitioner in 1842 and settled in Melbourne, where he became prominent as a coroner and physician. Another brother John never married and died at Fingal on 28 Oct. 1871 aged sixty-three. James Youl’s patronage secured Robert Dawbin – second husband of AB – an appointment with the Otago Provincial Government to superintend a shipment of salmon ova from England to Dunedin, New Zealand in 1868 (Frost *Face* 295). Youl was knighted in 1891 and died at his home, Clapham Park, Surrey on 5 June 1904.

Map 1: Colony of Tasmania, 1890 (Van Diemen's Land until 1856)



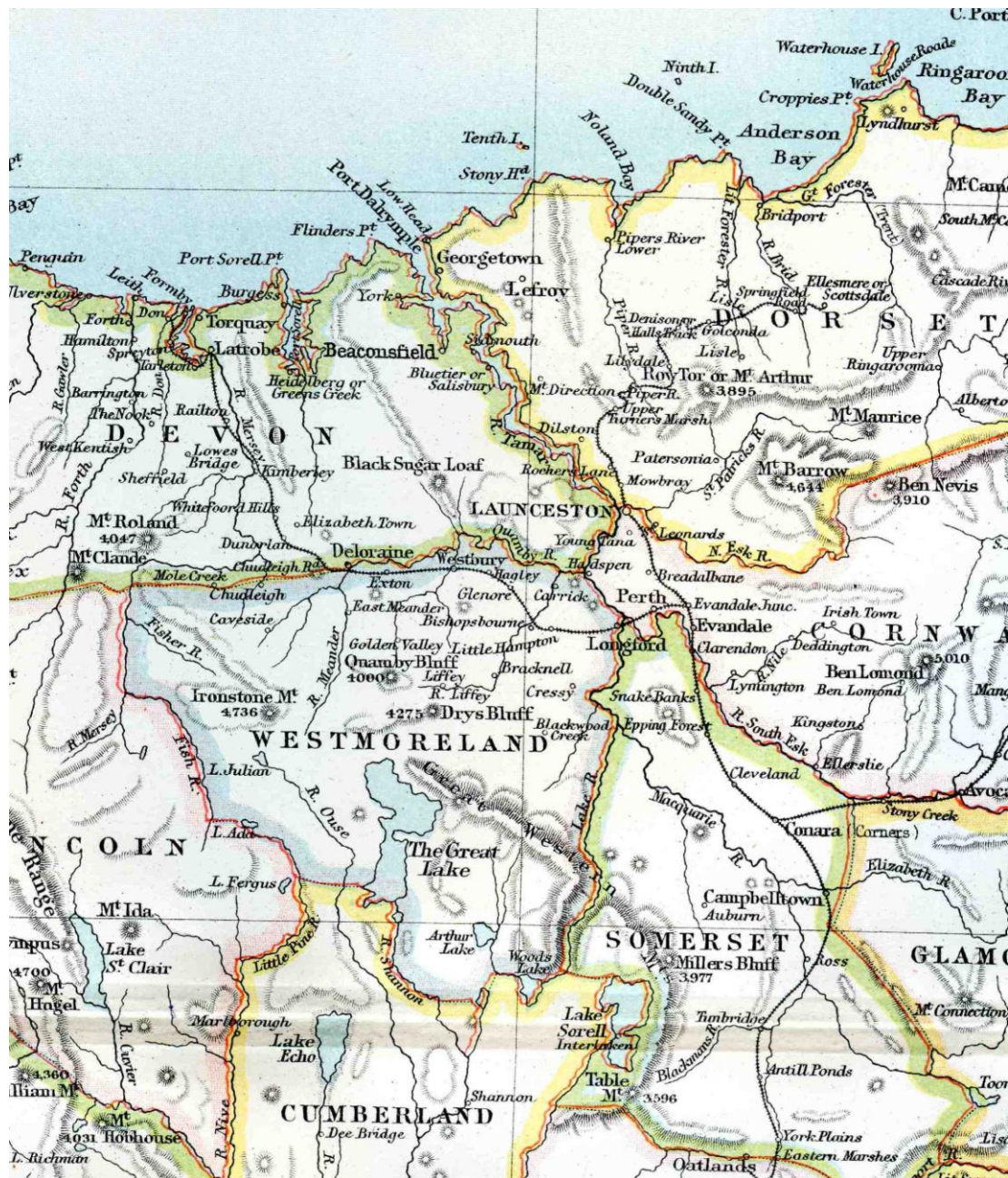
J.G. Bartholomew, "Colony of Tasmania." *The Royal Atlas & Gazetteer of Australasia*, (London: Nelson, 1890) (Scale: 1 cm = approx. 10 miles [16 km]).

Map 2: Area surrounding Hobart



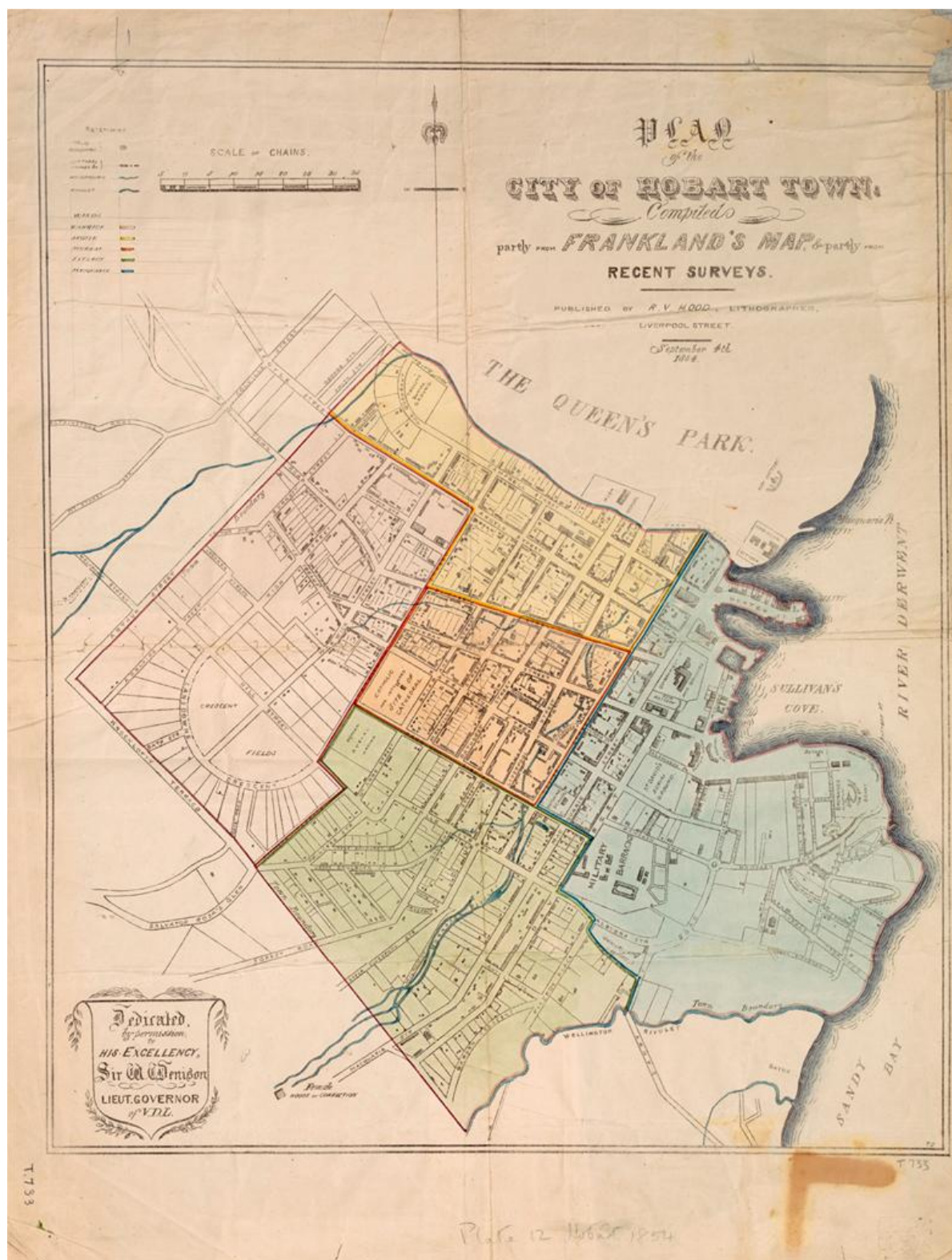
Adapted from J.G. Bartholomew, 1890 (Scale: 1 cm = 10 miles[16 km]).

Map 3: Area surrounding Launceston



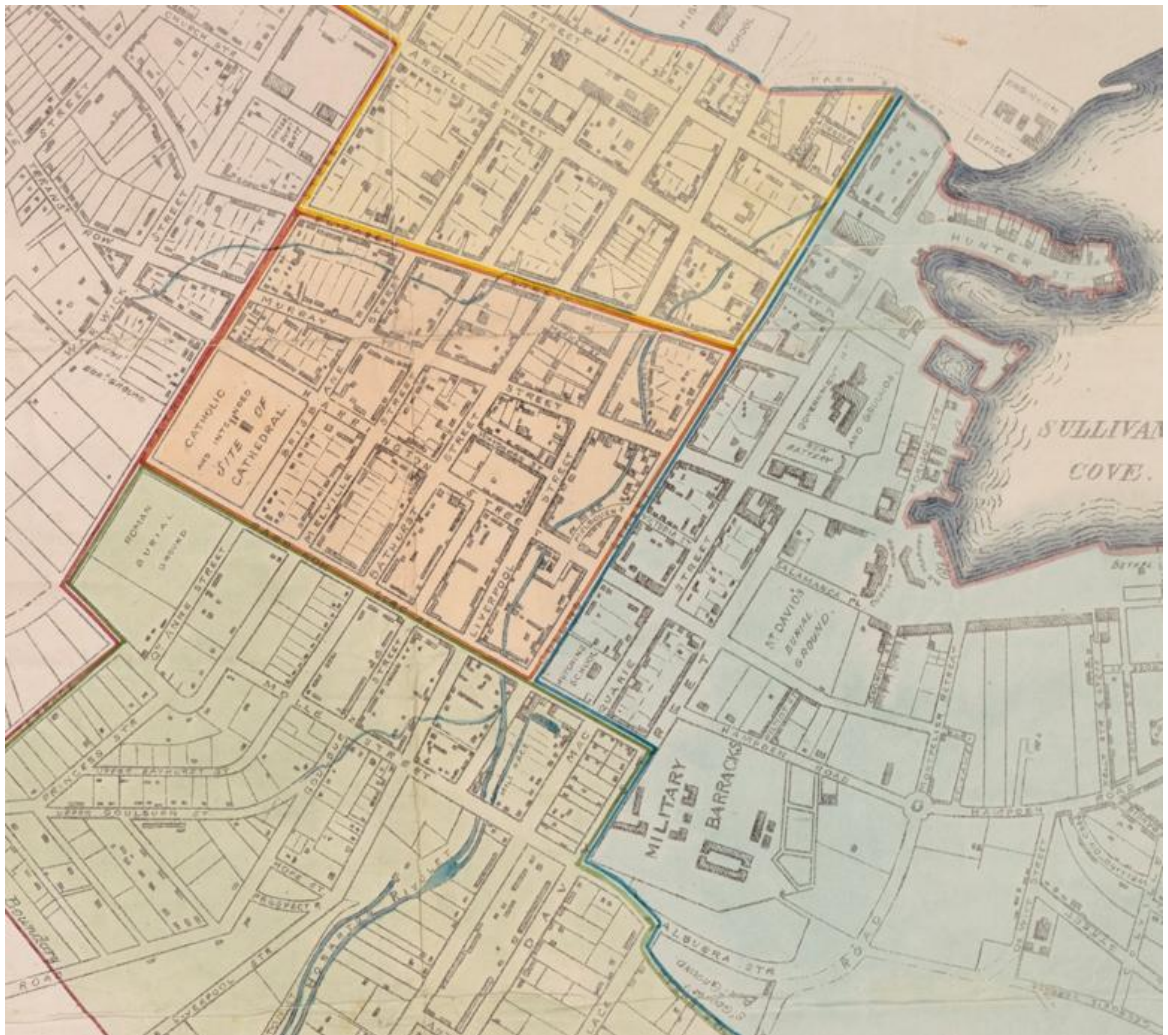
Adapted from J.G. Bartholomew, 1890 (Scale: 1 cm = approx. 10 miles [16 km]).

Map 4: Hobart Town, 1854



Robin Vaughan Hood, Hobart, 1854 (nla.map-t733).

Map 5: Detail of Hobart Town, 1854



Adapted from Robert Vaughan Hood, Hobart, 1854 (nla.map-t733).

Map 6: Launceston, 1839



George Frankland, London: J. Cross, 1839 (nla.map-rm1216).

Map 7: Detail of Launceston, 1839



Adapted from George Frankland, London: J. Cross, 1839 (nla.map-rm1216).

APPENDIX A: DESCRIPTION OF NOTEBOOKS

Notebook 1 (MS Q181 Item 1) 12 September 1834-31 May 1839

Binding: reddish-brown tooled faux-leather on spine and corners; front and back covered in pink, blue, black, grey and beige marbled paper on board; colours are faded; hard cover.

Paper sticker “1” on the spine.

Endpapers and edges: same patterned paper as the front and back covers.

Journal pages: white ruled with twenty faint black lines.

Notebook Size: 112 x 184 mm.

Number of leaves: 140

Pages of Journal text: 271

AB's pagination: 1,2, 3 [1], 4 [1], 5, 6, 5, 6, 7-12, [2], 13-41, 44 [prose is continuous page 41 and 44]-71, [72 & 73 have been cut out], 74-80, 71 [crossed out in pencil and corrected in an unknown hand as 81], 82-182, 193, 184, 195, 186-232, [1], 233-253, [1], 255-268.

Inside front cover: William Dixson bookplate. On verso of front fly leaf, top left hand corner: “20 o/u”; “3/6”; ½ way down page an unknown person has written “page 72/3 cut out” [an accurate assessment]. Central on this page: “Vol 1.” [unknown hand, pencil]. Recto of flyleaf, written vertically on page and in black ink: “I could go through the world with thee, To spend with thee Eternity! / * * * / Ay, I would have thee all my own, Thy love, thy life mine, mine alone;/ Ier [?] nothing in the world but ~~thee~~ We, Since nought I know, or love but thee/ The eyes that on a thousand fall, I would collect their glances all,/ And fling their lustre on my soul, / Till it imbibes, absorbs the whole!

Recto of next leaf: “Anna Maria Baxter's journal” / “Ship” “Augusta Jessie”/ September 12th 1834.” [“Ship” unknown hand, all else, black ink and AB's hand]. The Journal text begins on verso of this leaf.

The journal text is followed by 12 unnumbered pages of puns and nonsense. These are written from the back to the front of the book. The pages are not numbered and are transcribed in

Appendix II

On verso of the back flyleaf: “Thou too art gone! thou loved and lovely one/ Whom youth and youth's affection bound to me, / Who did for me what none beside have done/ Nor [...] from me albeit unworthy thee!—/ What is my being? Thou had ceased to be / Nor staid to welcome here thy wand'rer home,/ Who mourns o'er hours which we no more shall see/ Would they had never been, or were to come/ Would he had ne'er returned to find fresh lands to roam! — / The Augusta Jessie/ September 28th 1834” [AB hand, black ink].

Notebook 5 (MS Q181 Item 5): 7 September 1844 -27 April 1845

Binding: tan faux-leather spine; front and back cardboard covers with brown, black, and grey marbled paper; some water damage especially top of spine.

Paper sticker "5" on spine.

Endpapers: white

Edges: marbled, red, blue and white

Journal Pages: white and ruled with 23 faint blue lines

Notebook Size: 110 x 182 mm.

Number of leaves: 44

Pages of journal text: 88

Annie Baxter's pagination: 1-3,13,14-65,67,67-85, 86, 86.

Inside Front Cover: William Dixson bookplate; "Co" [...] [pencil in hand of A.H. Spencer, bookseller, overlaid by William Dixson bookplate]. Flyleaf: "No 9" [blue ink crossed out with black ink, unknown hand]; "No 6" [black ink crossed out with pencil, unknown hand]; "Annie Maria Baxter/ Vol 7th / Yambuck" [black ink, AB hand]. Inside back cover: pencil scribble in bottom right hand corner.

Notebook 8 (MS Q181 Item 8): August 1846-31 January 1847

The date in August is not specified; first record of date is Sunday 30th on page 3 of journal. This is the second entry for the book. 47 leaves excluding fly leaves.

Binding: cardboard covered in dark blue faux-leather; tooling around edges and spine – central embossed pattern on front and back rigid covers.

No paper sticker

Endpapers: multi-coloured (black, light blue, yellow, pink and grey) peacock pattern.

Journal pages: white and 22 faint blue lines

Notebook size: 115x178 mm.

Number of leaves: 46

Pages of Journal text: 92

AB's pagination: [1], 2-53, [1], 55-92.

Inside front cover: William Dixson bookplate is centrally placed. Verso of endpaper or flyleaf, beginning top left hand corner: "lem; A/E"; "2/0"; "4/-", "8" [circled], "Vol. 8"; "page 5 : 'cooe' – shooting blacks – / 22 Native Police -70-71-72-82/ -87-"; "Gregson /Major Shaw" [all pencil, various unidentified hands].

A death notice from a newspaper is pinned at the top of the next page. It reads: "DIED/ At Melbourne, on the 25th March, Campbell, second son of Andrew Hunter, Esq., of Bonnieton and

Doonholm, Ayrshire.” “Annie Maria Baxter/ Vol:/ Yambuck – Port Fairy/ 1846” [AB’s hand, black ink]; “August” [unidentified hand, pencil].

Last page of book, inverted on recto: “R.C. to M.A. / For Annie”; “When the sun hath set, and twilight grey/ Steals like a dome o’er declining day:/ When all is hushed and the Evening Star/ Peeps from her lofty home afar:/ Like the Halo from some angel bright,/ I’ll think of hours I’ve passed with thee,/ And when that lovely star you see/ Then dearest then, Remember me My own Loved one./ * * */ In such an hour shall memory trace,/ Each well-remembered trysting place;/ Recall each joy too bright to last / Each hour of maddening pleasure past –/ When rapture filled the heaving breast/ When heart to heart was fondly pressed/ Alike caressing and caressed!/ Such times may never return again,/ But dearest thou shalt ever reign/ Queen of my heart, and still remain My own loved one/ St Kitts/ October 12th / 46” [AB hand – presumably she has copied the poem to her journal]. Inside back flyleaf in the top right hand corner: “£ s. d.”; “3-0”; “1-7” [AB hand, black ink].

Notebook 9 (MS Q181 Item 9): 7 February 1847-16 June 1847

Binding: cardboard covered in reddish-brown faux-leather – no tooling; rigid board cover

Paper sticker “9” on spine

Endpapers: plain pale blue and 24 pale black lines.

Edges: marbled red, blue, yellow and white.

Journal pages: pale blue lined.

Notebook size: 110 x 175 mm.

Number of leaves including flyleaf: 40

Pages of journal text: 78

AB’s pagination: 1-32, 32, 34-37, 37- 51, [1], 53-77. 39 leaves excluding flyleaves.

Inside front cover, top LHS: “43 Trans/ stackbo[x]/ 49-” [pencil]. The full inscription is obscured by William Dixson bookplate which is placed centrally as usual. Recto of front flyleaf: “Annie Maria Baxter/ Longford Parsonage / 7th Feb. 1847” [AB hand, black ink]. Verso of front flyleaf: “To A.M.B. / As through the hedge-row shade, the violet steals/ and the sweet air, its modest leaf reveals;/ Her softer charms, but by their influence known,/ Surprise all hearts and mould them to her own.” [Unknown hand, black ink.] On verso of back flyleaf are two splotches of red sealing wax (presumably something has been removed from here).

Between pages 28 & 29 a ½ page of verse has been inserted: “Lo! at the couch where infant beauty sleeps/ Her silent watch the mournful mother keeps:/ The, while the lovely babe unconscious lies,/ Smiles on her slumbering child with pensive eyes./ And weaves a song of melancholy joy – / “Sleep, image of thy father, sleep my boy:”/ So speaks affection ere the infant eye / Can look regard, or brighten in reply;/ But when the cherub lip hath learnt to claim/ A

Mother's Ear, by that endearing name,/ Soon as the playful moment can prove/ A tear of pity, or a smile of love/ How glows the joyous parent to decry/ A guileless bosom, true to sympathy./ Pleasures of hope." This hand is the same as the inscription at the beginning of the Journal and an insertion between pages 43 and 44. The inscription relates to a dream: "On reading your dream the following lines occurred to me, the author of which I forget. 'Sleep on, and dream of Heaven awhile/ Though shut so close, thy laughing eyes/ Thy rosy lips still wear a smile/ And more and breathe delirious sighs/ Ah now soft blushes, tinge her cheeks/ And mantle o'er her neck of snow/ Ah now she murmurs, now she speaks/ What must I wish and long to know./ She starts, she trembles and she weeps/ her fair hands folded on her breast/ And now how like a saint she sleeps/ A Seraph of the realms of rest.' / Would that the they would apply to the writer." Inside back cover: "[...] 456" [black ink]/ "Add 463" [pencil].

Notebook 10 (MS Q181 Item 10): 1 January 1848-8 December 1848

Binding: reddish-tan faux-leather; tooled edge around cover borders; hard cardboard covers.

Paper sticker "10" on spine.

Endpapers: tan, sky blue and white marbled (amoebic pattern).

Edges: red, blue and white marbling.

Journal pages: white with 22 very feint blue lines.

Notebook size: 100 x 160 mm.

Number of leaves: 134 excluding flyleaf

Pages of journal text: 266

AB's pagination: [1], 2-37, [1], 39-50, 50, 51-198, [1], 200-234, [1], 236-265, 266

Inside Front Cover, centrally placed William Dixson bookplate. Verso of flyleaf, top left hand corner: "5/-" ; "10" [circled]; "Vol 10"; "Major Mercer – Col. Despard – Allport – / 32-39-41-42-55-56-57-90-92-95-99-100-132 and 133-135-137-138-139-145 Clarke-145-226 [all in pencil]".

Recto of page after flyleaf: "No 8" [blue ink]; "No 6" [black ink]; "No 7" [black ink]. [Unknown hand, all are scribbled out with pencil]; "Annie Maria Baxter/ Yambuck/ Vol: 12th" [AB hand].

Verso of last journal page written upside down at bottom of page left to right: "Page 151/ In speaking of Shelley, L.E.L says 'Love was born with him, in him, so intense,/ It was his very being, not a sense.'" – [AB hand, possibly refers to L.E.L's memoir which A B was reading at some stage in the writing of this journal]. Page 30 red sealing wax at top and bottom left hand side of page (something has been removed); A splotch of red sealing wax is also found on page 32 at approximately centre top.

Notebook 11 (MS Q181 Item 11): 10 December 1848-13 August 1849

Binding: full leather tan binding. Soft cover.

Paper sticker "11" on spine.

Endpapers: white

Edges: red, blue and white marbled.

Journal Paper: white with 24 faint blue lines.

Notebook size: 115 x 182 mm.

Number of leaves: 117 excluding flyleaf

Pages of journal text: 234

AB's pagination: 1-33, [1], 35-96, [1], 98-111, 111, 112- 121, [1], 123-167, [1], 168-189, 189, 190-194, [2], 197- 211, [3], 215-232.

Inside front cover, top left hand corner written in blue ink: "2/2"; "£/-"; "11" [circled, written in pencil and partially obscured by William Dixson bookplate]. Recto of flyleaf: "Hobart Town – / 1848/ Vol: 15th" [AB's hand and black ink].

Notebook 12 (MS Q182 Item 1): 14 August 1849-12 December 1849

Binding: reddish-tan paper covered boards

Paper sticker "12" on spine

Endpapers: pale blue

Edges: red, blue and white marbled edges

Journal Paper: pale blue with 18 very faint blue lines

Notebook size: 100 x 155 mm.

Number of leaves: 69

Pages of journal text: 136

AB's pagination: 1-36, [1], 38-53, 53, 54-131, [1], 133-5

Inside front cover: William Dixon bookplate is centrally placed. Recto of front flyleaf: "à ma chère amie/ A. M. B" [Unknown hand]; "Hobart Town/ Vol: 16th 1849" [AB hand].

Notebook 13 (MS Q182 Item 2): 15 December 1849-4 August 1850

Binding: dark brown leather-covered board.

Paper sticker "13" on spine.

Endpapers: white

Edges: blue and white marbled edges

Journal pages: pale blue ruled with 18 faint blue lines

Notebook size: 110 x 175 mm.

Number of leaves: 120

Pages of journal text: 240

AB's pagination: 1-47, 47, 48-79, [1], 81-102, [2], 105-114, 113, 114, 115-237.

Inside Front cover: William Dixson bookplate; “C[...]9” [pencil in hand of A H Spencer, bookseller overlaid by William Dixson bookplate]. Recto of front flyleaf: “No 5” [blue ink]; “No 8” [pencil]. Both are written in an unknown hand and both scribbled over with pencil. “Annie Maria Baxter/ Hobart Town/ Vol: 17th” [AB hand, black ink]. Back flyleaf: “The Revd. J. Thompson/ H.M.S. Maeander/ Valparaiso/ S. America/ care of/ Messrs. Halford and Co./ 41 Norfolk Street/ Strand/ London” [AB hand].

Notebook 14 (MS Q182 Item 3): 4 August 1850-17 April 1851

Binding: dark brown leather-covered board.

Paper sticker “14”

Endpapers: white

Edges: blue and white marbled

Journal pages: pale blue paper ruled with 18 faint blue lines.

Notebook size: 110 x 175 mm.

Number of leaves: 120

Pages of journal text: 240

AB's pagination: 1-122, [2], 125-167, 167, 168-202, 204-212, 113, [213], 214, 115-133, 139-45.

Inside front cover: William Dixson bookplate; “de[...]10.”

Recto of flyleaf: “No7” [blue ink and crossed out with black ink]; “No 9” [Unknown hands, black ink]; “Annie Maria Baxter/ Vol: 18th” [AB hand, black ink]. Back flyleaf: “Bill for £40.00 – at three months/ 26 Sept/ 50; Mrs H Smythe/ Benalla/ Broken River/ Port Phillip; Major Tew/ 15 Dommick Street/ Dublin” [AB hand, black ink].

APPENDIX B: TRANSCRIPTION OF EXTRA MATERIAL AT THE END OF NOTEBOOK 1

A few puns – Augusta Jessie

As I was standing on the poop of the Augusta Jessie, Baxter came up to me – “Why Annie, you are looking so anxiously after that whale (meaning one we had just seen) that any one would think you were a little whaler”! “They should ask you that” – replied I – (having used my slipper on his back the night before!) “I presume you were the barnacles last night” said D^r McTernan, drily – Captain Edenborough being told this, said “Oh! M^{rs} B’s pun is not better than the Doctor’s, or there is not a (D^r) difference between!! 15th October –

M^r S. was saying that a friend of his had employed Scarlet, in a law suit – I presume because he thought him well read (red) said the Doctor.

D^r McT was saying that he had found a pair of spectacles in London, that just did for his Mother “They suit her admirably,” said he – I should think she is too old for suitors now, eh”? said my intelligent spouse –

A friend of mine (Miss Hutchinson) was fond of showing her pretty shoulders – One evening in particular at a Dance, she wore a very low dress – A M^r Palmer (now Sir Roger P—) remarked to me that it did not look well – I must first state tho’ that he is extremely near-sighted. The next day I said to her “Georgy, my dear, M^r P thinks that it does not look exactly “comme il faut”¹ to see a lady’s neck so exposed!! “Why, Annie I did not imagine for a minute that he saw it, he is so near-sighted, you know”! “The very reason he is so close an observer,” I replied – – Chester – “What would you take Annie,” said Mama to me one day, “to go back to school again”? “A long time to consider, Mama”!

One day on my passage to N.S. Wales, we fell in with the carcass of a whale – Of course there were many Birds about it – the Gig was lowered and the Doctor, Captain and second Mate went to have a shot – losing sight of it for a second in the swell the Captain said “Why I don’t see it,

¹ Proper

where is it”? (I must first however state that it was not scented with anything like eau-de-cologne –)
–) “Oh! Never mind, returned the Doctor , move on, I know/ nose where it is”! –

“Steward,” said I one day “cut me a sandwich!” “Oh! Oh! M^{rs} Baxter” said the Doctor “I see altho’ you are not the member for Sandwich, you are a candidate”!

“A M^r Moss went out in the Augusta Jessie to Van Diemen’s Land – One day speaking of the convicts, he said “I never saw such a lot of thieves over and all – Once I did not hold with “Corporal” punishment, but , (if I may be allowed to pun) I now should recommend “General” punishment – (Promotion !)

One day Baxter and I were sitting on the poop of the above-mentioned ship, when the poulterer came to feed his protégés – the geese putting their noses out of the coup, my spouse said “They prognosticate ! they are going to be fed!”

Upon the Rev^d. R.R. Davies one day saying he carolled [?] well I remarked “Pray might I ask how long your trumpeter has been dead”? “He is still alive, he returned. Then I can only say, were I in your place, M^r Davies, I would not keep a dog and bark myself” I replied –

“I never yet saw M^{rs} Baxter animated,” said Captⁿ O’Hara – “You’ll pardon me, noble Sir, I said if we differ, for I shall be Annie-mated until my husband’s death,”

A Miss Matthews was one day working for a poor woman’s child – When a M^r O’Brien came into the room – “What are you doing”? said he – “Making children’s clothes” returned she, “for we are told “Charity covereth a multitude of sins”! “I hope Miss M” replied he “you have no such sins to cover”!! (Good)

When at Launceston, a Merchant was remarking that the detachment was in in [sic] very bad order – Baxter being told this remarked “He ought to be a good judge[,] being one of the cloth”!! “M^r Smythe, it is no use you’re ogling at me, I’ll not² return any of your ogles!”(said Miss Youl one day at dinner) – “But I (pointing to his eyes) will tho’” said he.

M^r R. Dry remarked what an excellent caricature it would make – the figure of a man without arms or legs – with “Remember Me” underneath –

² Superscript in original.

Coming from Ben Lomond M^r Dry made some puns which I thought not very good – at last he said “Make a riddle M^{rs} B – “Done” said I – “Why if you were to offend M^r Cox, would he be like your puns”? A[nswer] “because he would require an explanation”

M^r Youl, asked for some nutmeg – it was brought, but not powdered – “Take this away, said he, it is too small a piece & and bring a grater” – (greater!)

At M^{rs} M^cLeod’s Dance – a black fiddler was beginning to play a Quadrille when one of the strings broke – three times the same thing recurred – a Gentlemen near me remarked it was the air – “Then^[r]”, said I “Let him change the tune”!

Cape – – Why is a person taking violent exercise like [a] sloth? He is in-action.

Why is the new police magistrate for Mowen like a mourner ? (Because he be-wails/ Wales)

Why is M^{rs} Baxter like a Prisoner at any meal? (Because she is captive-ating).

One of the prisoners in the Launceston goal [sic] about a week previous to his execution – told the gaoler [sic] that he wanted a new pair of shoes –as the ones he was wearing were nearly worn out – upon my being told this I remarked “that it was a good thing at the last, he thought of his own soul (soles!)

Baxter went into the goal [sic] – and Gardiner seeing him touched his hat – I observed “what a world of bribery and corruption is this, with an officer in her Majesty’s service receiving tips M^r Clarke, the police magistrate ordered a poor cooper to have six months in the Penitentiary – he was so distressed at the sentence that he [~~words under erasure~~] attempted to smother his grief in a well. M^r Wales said “he thought it an unfair thing to punish so well-disposed a person”—

Why is Italy like a china shop? –

Upon M^r Davies saying that Miss L. Scandern [?] could sleep between M^{rs} McLeod & I, at N[orfolk] P[lains] – I remarked – “You’ll find me a Dissenter/ centre, on this occasion –

M^r Wales had his bees stolen the people (whom every body thought were Jews) finding the bees sting, dropped them & ran – M^r Wales said he did not think they were Jews, for “they have fled from the Multitudes and become Bee-leavers (Believers)

M^{rs} Salmon saw the arrival of a M^r Miles and M^r Longbottom in the Sydney paper – she observed they were both long [illegible word]

Upon the Major placing his horse on some cut stones, I observed Major Ryan has Marmion on his metal now

If a man died under D^r Inches care why would he be like a man about to be hanged

A[nswer] Because he would die by inches (Inches).

When Captain Bartley of the 50th was imprisoned at [illegible word] – a french [sic] officer observed that they were always building fine vessels, and that the English never seemed to be doing so – “Why” said Captⁿ B “it is scarcely worth while our building when we are sure to have all yours and then we might be overstocked”

Upon M^r Winter observing of a turkey – “that it was very tough”—M^{rs} Youl observed “You are not the first Winter it has seen”

When the Venus was in the Sydney Harbour, a french [sic] letter came off to one Officer – and not one could properly understand it – Captⁿ Best remarked “we are an English regiment in [illegible word]”!

One morning when we were at Port Macquarie M^r Crop came up to M^{rs} Kemps for us – She said to us when ready to go “Well, I suppose you must not keep your Bean waiting – at least M^{rs} Crop thinks him so”—“Her Bean indeed” said I for he can never be one in reality”!

I was observing what an extraordinary word “Amoro” was for a nose – and especially such noses as the Blacks have – Mr Evans said “It was quite different to amorous the feeling they inspire him with”

Some one said that Major M. spent a great deal on his gold lace – I remarked “it’s few men you’ll find willing to spend money towards lacing themselves” –

Upon my asking how many children M^{rs} Budder had, M^r M^cLeod said “Eleven”—“They should steer well thro’ this world” said Baxter “so many of them”

M^r Mc Leod was telling us that two horses coming over from Sydney in the steamer had been nearly starved – and had at last recourse to each other’s mane – “That is what I should call living by main force”! said Baxter

Baxter took it into his head to farm – alias to settle – I observed to Margaret that “altho’ he has taken it into his head to settle, he is not, I think settled in his mind.

Riding home from Kempsey we saw some Cockatoos and M^r M^cLeod said it was a strange thing that they were never ever seen in even numbers ! “They are odd birds”—said I

The last time we went to bogy Nanny (one of the black girls) wiped her nose with two leaves – when we came home M^r M^cLeod said how very miserable you all look at having to go away – “talking of leave-taking”, said I “I saw an affecting case today” – and mentioned the above.

Another of the blacks named Polly was sitting by the fire with three other Gins and a man called Harry – “A case of pollygammy” said I

Miss Youl on hearing that M^r Weir had walked down to my house with Margaret M^c Leod remarked that the pleasure of that walk would never wear away

M^r John Cox upon being told that a favourite rose tree had come to life again said “then I suppose it rose again”

WORKS CITED

Manuscript Sources

Dawbin, Annie Maria Baxter. Diaries 12 Sep. 1834-3 May 1868. MS Q 181-183. Dixon Lib., State Lib. of NSW, Sydney.

Skewes, Greg. Letter to Lucy Frost. 28 October 1997, privately held.

Spencer, AH. Correspondence. MS 12361. Latrobe Collection, State Lib. of Victoria.

Thompson, Josiah. Journal 1850-1851. MS 140. Dixon Lib., State Lib. of NSW, Sydney.

Primary and Secondary Sources

Adelaide, Debra, ed. *A Bright and Fiery Troop*. Ringwood: Penguin, 1978.

Alexander, Alison. *Obliged to Submit: Wives and Mistresses of Colonial Governors*. Hobart: Montpelier P, 1999.

Australian Dictionary of Biography. Online ed. Canberra: Australian National University, 2006-
<<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/>>.

Backhouse, James. *A Narrative of a Visit to the Australian Colonies*. 1843. Rpt. ed. New York: Johnson, 1967.

Baker, A.D. *The Life and Times of Sir Richard Dry*. Hobart: Oldham, Beddome and Meredith, 1951.

Barbellion, W.N.P. *The Journal of a Disappointed Man*. London: Chatto & Windus, 1919.

Barker, Hannah, and Elaine Chalus, eds. *Women's History: Britain, 1700-1850*. London: Routledge, 2005.

Barnes, John. "“More Beautiful than Port Phillip:’ The La Trobe Family in Van Diemen’s Land.” *The La Trobe Journal* 80 (2007): 65-74.

Bashkirtseff, Marie. *The Journal of Marie Bashkirtseff*. Trans. Mathilde Blind. London: Cassell, 1890.

Bassett, Marnie. *The Hentys: An Australian Colonial Tapestry*. London: Oxford UP, 1954.
Melbourne: Melbourne UP, 1962.

Bateson, Charles. *The Convict Ships, 1787-1868*. Glasgow: Brown, Son and Ferguson, 1959.

- Beer, Gillian. "Four Bodies on the *Beagle*: Touch, Sight and Writing in a Darwin Letter." *Textuality and Sexuality: Reading Theories and Practices*. Ed. Judith Still and Michael Worton. Manchester: Manchester UP, 1993. 116-32.
- Bertram, James, ed. *New Zealand Letters of Thomas Arnold the Younger with Further Letters from Van Diemen's Land and Letters of Arthur Hugh Clough, 1847-1851*. London: Oxford UP, 1966.
- Bethel, Llewellyn Slingsby. *The Story of Port Dalrymple: Life and Work in Northern Tasmania*. Hobart: Blubberhead P, 1980.
- Bird, Delys. "Gender and Landscape: Australian Colonial Women Writers." *Hecate* 18 (1989): 20-36.
- Blodgett, Harriet. *Centuries of Female Days: Englishwomen's Private Diaries*. Gloucester: Sutton, 1989.
- Bloom, Lynn Z. "'I write for Myself and Strangers': Private Diaries as Public Documents." *Bunkers & Huff*. 23-37.
- Bolger, Peter. *Hobart Town*. Canberra: Australian National U, 1973.
- Boyce, James. "Canine Revolution: The Social and Environmental Impact of the Introduction of the Dog to Tasmania." *Environmental History* 11.1 (2006): 81 pars. 20 Sep. 2008
<<http://www.historycooperative.org/journals/eh/11.1/boyce.html>>.
- Brown, Joan. "*Poverty is not a Crime*": *The Development of Social Services in Tasmania, 1803-1900*. Hobart: Tasmanian Hist. Research Assoc., 1972.
- Brown, Philip Lawrence, ed. *Clyde Company Papers*. 7 vol. London: Oxford UP, 1941-1971.
- Bulwer Lytton, Edward. *Ernest Maltravers; or, The Eleusinia*. Vol.1. London: Chapman and Hall, 1851.
- Bunkers, Suzanne, and Cynthia Huff, eds. *Inscribing the Daily: Critical Essays on Women's Diaries*. Amherst: U of Massachusetts P, 1996.
- Bunkers, Suzanne. "Diaries and Dysfunctional Families: The Case of Emily Hall Gillespie and Sarah Gillespie Huftalen." *Bunkers and Huff* 220-35.

---. "Midwestern Diaries and Journals: What Women Were (Not) Saying in the Late 1800s."

Studies in Autobiography. Ed. James Olney. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1988. 190-210.

Button, Henry. *Flotsam and Jetsam, Floating Fragments of Life in England and Tasmania: An Autobiographical Sketch, with an Outline of the Introduction of Responsible Government*. Facsim. ed. Launceston: Launceston Hist. Soc., 1993.

Cannadine, David. *Class in Britain*. New Haven: Yale UP, 1998.

Charlwood, Don. *The Long Farewell*. Ringwood: Allen Lane, 1981.

Chick, Neil. *The Archers of Van Diemen's Land: a History of Pioneer Pastoral Families*. Lenah Valley: Pedigree P, 1991.

Clarke, Charles Manning Hope. *A History of Australia*. Vol. 3. Melbourne: Melbourne UP, 1973.

Clark, Patricia and Dale Spender, eds. *Life Lines: Australian Women's Diaries and Letters, 1788-1840*. St. Leonards: Allen and Unwin, 1996.

Cox, George W. *Bass Strait Crossing*. Sandy Bay: Melanie, 1986.

Crabb, George. *Crabb's English Synonyms*. New York: Harper, 1917. 15 Dec. 2009

<<http://www.archive.org/stream/crabbsenglishsyn00crabiala#page/n7/mode/2up>>.

Craig, Clifford. *The Van Diemen's Land Edition of the Pickwick Papers: A General and Bibliographical Study with Some Notes of Henry Dowling*. Hobart: Cat & Fiddle P, 1973.

Crane, Elaine Foreman. Editorial Note. *The Diary of Elizabeth Drinker: The Life Cycle of an Eighteenth-Century Woman*. Ed. Elaine Foreman Crane. Boston: Northeastern UP, 1994. xxi-xxiii.

Culley, Margo, ed. *The Diary Literature of American Women from 1764 to the Present*. New York: Feminist P, 1985.

Cussans, John Edwin. *History of Hertfordshire*. Vol. 3. 1870-1881. London: Chatto & Windus, 1972.

David, Deidre. *Rule Britannia: Women, Empire and Victorian Writing*. Ithaca: Cornell UP, 1995.

Davidoff, Leonore, and Catherine Hall. *Family Fortunes: Men and Women of the English Middle Class, 1780-1850*. London: Hutchinson, 1987.

- Davidoff, Leonore. *The Best Circles: Society, Etiquette and the Season*. London: Croom Helm, 1973.
- Davis, Richard and Stefan Petrow, eds. *Varieties of Vice-Regal Life by Sir William and Lady Denison*. Hobart: Tasmanian Historical Research Association, 2004.
- Dawbin, Annie Baxter. *Memories of the Past, by a Lady in Australia*. Melbourne: Williams, 1873.
- Dent, John. "First Settlement." *Health, Wealth and Tribulation: Launceston's Cataract Gorge*. Ed. Paul A.C. Richards and Murray Johnson. South Launceston: Myola, 2007. 69-77.
- Dictionary of Australian Artists Online*. Sydney: U of NSW, 2007. <<http://www.daaao.org.au/>>.
- Dixon, Robert. "Public and Private Voices." *The Penguin New Literary History of Australia*. Ed. Laurie Hergenhan and Bruce Bennett. Ringwood: Penguin, 1988. 126-38.
- Dormandy, Thomas. *The White Death: A History of Tuberculosis*. London: Hambledon P, 1999.
- Dunning, Tom. "A Note on Penal Labour and Launceston's Cataract Gorge." *Health, Wealth and Tribulation: Launceston's Cataract Gorge*. Ed. Paul Richards and Murray Johnson. Launceston: Myola, 2007. 77-83.
- Dyster, Barrie. *Servant and Master: Building and Running the Grand Houses of Sydney 1788-1850*. Kensington: NSW UP, 1989.
- Eggert, Paul. *Academy Editions of Australian Literature Manual for Editors*. Canberra: Australian Scholarly Editions Centre, 1994.
- Else-Mitchell, Rae. "Dawbin, Annie Maria (1816-1905)". *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. Vol. 1. Melbourne: Melbourne UP, 1966: 296-97.
- Evans, Kathryn. "Hops." *The Companion to Tasmanian History*. Ed. Alison Alexander. Hobart: Centre for Tasmanian Hist. Studies, 2005. 181.
- Fenton, Elizabeth. *The Journal of Mrs Fenton: A Narrative of Her Life in India, the Isle of France (Mauritius), and Tasmania during the Years 1826-1830*. London: Arnold, 1901.
- Finlay, Henry. "Lawmaking in the Shadow of Empire: Divorce in Colonial Australia." *Journal of Family History* 24 (1999): 74-109.
- Flanders, Judith. *Inside the Victorian Home*. 2003. New York: Norton, 2006.

- Fothergill, Robert. *Private Chronicles: A Study of English Diaries*. London: Oxford UP, 1974.
- Frost, Lucy. "Annie Baxter and Her Journal: 1838-68." *Adelaide* 29-40.
- . "The English Lady and the Quartermaster's Sons." *Victorian Historical Journal*. 58.2 (1987): 3-18.
- . *A Face in the Glass: The Journal and Life of Annie Baxter Dawbin*. Melbourne: Heinemann, 1992.
- , ed. *The Journal of Annie Baxter Dawbin July 1858 - May 1868*. The Academy Editions of Australian Literature. St. Lucia: U of Queensland P, 1998.
- , ed. *No Place for a Nervous Lady: Voices from the Australian Bush*. Rev. ed. St. Lucia: U of Queensland P, 2002.
- Fyler, Arthur Evelyn. *The History of the 50th or (the Queen's Own) Regiment from the Earliest Date [1741] to... 1881*. London: Chapman and Hall, 1895.
- Gannett, Cinthia. *Gender and the Journal: Diaries and Academic Discourse*. Albany: State U of New York P, 1992.
- Gough, Julie. "Oyster Cove." *The Companion to Tasmanian History*. Ed. Alison Alexander. Hobart: Centre for Tasmanian Hist. Studies, 2005. 261-62.
- Grimshaw, Patricia and Ann Standish. "Making Tasmania Home: Louisa Meredith's Colonizing Prose." *Frontiers* 28.1 (2007): 1-17.
- Hall, Catherine. "Of Gender and Empire: Reflections on the Nineteenth Century." *Levine* 46-76.
- Harpenden, a Picture History: an Illustrated Introduction to a History of Harpenden*. Harpenden: Harpenden Branch of the Workers Educ. Assoc., 1973.
- Hassam, Andrew. *Sailing to Australia: Shipboard Diaries by Nineteenth-Century British Emigrants*. Melbourne: Melbourne UP, 1995.
- Herndl, Diane Price. *Invalid Women: Figuring Feminine Illness in American Fiction and Culture 1840 - 1940*. Chapel Hill: U of North Carolina P, 1993.
- Hudspeth, Wilfred Hugh. *Hudspeth Memorial Volume: An Introduction to the Diaries of the Rev. Robert Knopwood, A.M. and G.T.W. Boyes*. Hobart: Government Printer, 1954.

- Huff, Cynthia. *British Women's Diaries: A Descriptive Bibliography of Selected Nineteenth-Century Women's Manuscript Diaries*. New York: AMS P, 1985.
- . "Reading as Revision: Approaches to Reading Manuscript Diaries." *Biography* 23 (2000): 505-23.
- Hughes, Robert. *The Fatal Shore: A History of the Transportation of Convicts to Australia 1787 – 1868*. London: Pan, 1988.
- Jones, Dorothy. "'Letter Writing and Journal Scribbling'." *Adelaide* 15-28.
- Jalland, Patricia. *Death in the Victorian Family*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1996.
- Kagle, Steven E., and Lorenza Gramegna. "Rewriting Her Life: Fictionalization and the Use of Fictional Models in Early American Diaries." *Bunkers and Huff* 38-55.
- Knopwood, Robert. *The Diary of the Reverend Robert Knopwood, 1803 – 1838: First Chaplain of Van Diemen's Land*. Ed. Mary Nicholls. Hobart: Tasmanian Hist. Research Assn., 1977.
- Lawlor, Clark, and Akihito Suzuki. "The Disease of the Self: Representing Consumption, 1700-1830." *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 74.3 (2000): 458-94.
- Lejeune, Philippe. "Auto-Genesis: Genetic Studies of Autobiographical Texts." *Genetic Criticism: Texts and Avant-Textes*. Ed. Jed Deppman, Daniel Ferrer and Michael Groden. Philadelphia: U of Pennsylvania P, 2004. 193-217.
- . "The 'Journal de Jeune Fille' in Nineteenth-Century France." *Bunkers and Huff* 107-22.
- Levine, Phillippa, ed. *Gender and Empire*. Oxford History of the British Empire, Companion Series. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2004. 46-76.
- Lubbock, Adelaide. *Owen Stanley R.N.* Melbourne: Heinemann, 1968.
- Macfarlane, Alan. *Marriage and Love in England: Modes of Reproduction 1300-1840*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1986.
- MacFie, Peter. "The Royal Engineers in Colonial Tasmania." *Environmental History*. 5.2 (1986): 4-14.
- Marsh, Gail. *19th Century Embroidery Techniques*. Lewes: Guild of Master Craftsmen, 2008.

- Martin, Sylvia. "Reading Life Writing: Australian Women's Letters and Diaries." *Hecate* 18.2 (1992): 126-37.
- Matthews, William *British Diaries: An Annotated Bibliography of British Diaries Written between 1442 and 1942*. London: Cambridge UP, 1950.
- McKenzie, Kirsten. *Scandal in the Colonies: Sydney & Cape Town, 1820-1850*. Melbourne: Melbourne UP, 2004.
- McNeice, Roger. "Fire Brigades." *The Companion to Tasmanian History*. Ed. Alison Alexander. Hobart: Centre for Tasmanian Hist. Studies, 2005. 136.
- Meredith, Louisa Anne. *My Home in Tasmania during a Residence of Nine Years*. 1852. Swansea: Glamorgan Spring Bay Historical Society, 2003.
- Miller, Edmund Morris, comp. *Australian Literature: A Bibliography to 1938: Extended to 1950*. Sydney: Angus and Robertson, 1956.
- Morison, Ian. *The Vandiemonians: From Penal Settlements to Marvellous Melbourne*. Charnwood: Ginninderra P, 2005.
- Morris, Gill. *The Journals of Charlotte Cleveland*. Launceston: Friends of the Library, 2006.
- Newman, Terry. *Becoming Tasmania: Renaming Van Diemen's Land*. Hobart: Parliament of Tasmania, 2005.
- Niall, Brenda. *Georgiana: A Biography of Georgiana McRae, Painter, Diarist, Pioneer*. Melbourne: Miegunyah P, 1994.
- Nicholls, Mary. Introduction. Knopwood xi-xiv.
- Nugent, Maria. *Lady Nugent's Journal of her Residence in Jamaica from 1801 to 1805*. Ed. Philip Wright. Kingston: Institute of Jamaica, 1966.
- Nussbaum, Felicity. *The Autobiographical Subject: Gender and Ideology in Eighteenth-Century England*. Baltimore: John Hopkins UP, 1989.
- Olney, James. "Autobiography and the Cultural Moment: A Thematic, Historical and Bibliographic Introduction." *Autobiography: Essays Theoretical and Critical*. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1980. 3-27.

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography. Online ed. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2004-9

<<http://www.oxford.com/>>.

Oxford English Dictionary Online. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2000- <<http://dictionary.oed.com>>.

Page, William. *The Victoria History of Hertfordshire*. vol. 2. 1902 -14. Folkstone: U of London
Institute of Historical Research, 1971.

Perkin, Joan. *Women and Marriage in Nineteenth-Century England*. London: Routledge, 1989.

Pickering, David. *Cassell's Dictionary of Superstitions*. London: Cassell, 1995.

Powling, J.W. *Port Fairy, the First Fifty Years, 1837 -1887: A Social History*. Melbourne:
Heinemann, 1980.

Prinsep, Augustus. *The Journal of a Voyage from Calcutta to Van Diemen's Land: Comprising a
Description of that Colony during a Six Month's Residence*. Tasmaniana Facsimile
Editions 3. Hobart: Melanie Publications, 1981.

Rait, Basil. *Perth and Its Story*. Tasmania: BP Australia, 1971.

Richards, Paul A.C. *Nyllavert: The House that Barnes Built*. South Launceston: Myola, 2003.

Richardson, Joanna. "An Annotated Edition of the Journals of Mary Morton Allport." Diss. 2
vols. U of Tasmania, 2006.

Richardson, Philip. *The Social Dances of the Nineteenth Century*. London: Herbert Jenkins, 1960.

Robertson, E. Graham, and Edith N. Craig. *Early Houses of Northern Tasmania*. Abr. ed.
Melbourne: Georgian House, 1966.

Robson, Lloyd. *A History of Tasmania: Van Diemen's Land from the Earliest Times to 1855*. Vol.
1. Melbourne: Melbourne UP, 1983.

Robson, Lloyd and Michael Roe. *A Short History of Tasmania*. Melbourne: Oxford UP, 1997.

Rosenblatt, Paul C. *Bitter, Bitter Tears: Nineteenth-Century Diarists and Twentieth-Century Grief
Theories*. Minneapolis: U of Minnesota P, 1983.

Rubio, Mary. "'A Dusting Off': An Anecdotal Account of Editing the L.M. Montgomery
Journals." *Working in Women's Archives: Researching Women's Private Literature and*

- Archival Documents*. Ed. Helen M. Buss and Marlene Kadar. Waterloo: Wilfred Laurier UP, 2001: 51-78.
- Russell, Penny. *This Errant Lady: Jane Franklin's Overland Journey to Port Phillip and Sydney, 1839*. Canberra: National Lib. of Australia, 2002.
- . *For Richer, For Poorer: Early Colonial Marriages*. Melbourne: Melbourne UP, 1994.
- . "Wife Stories: Narrating Marriage and Self in the Life of Jane Franklin." *Victorian Studies* 48.1 (Autumn 2005): 35-57.
- . *"A Wish for Distinction": Colonial Gentility and Femininity*. Melbourne: Melbourne UP, 1994.
- Rust, Frances. *Dance in Society*. London: Kegan Paul, 1969.
- Santich, Barbara. *Looking for Flavour*. Kent Town: Wakefield, 1996.
- de Serville, Paul. *Port Phillip Gentlemen and Good Society in Melbourne Before the Gold Rushes*. Melbourne: Melbourne UP, 1980.
- . *Pounds and Pedigrees: The Upper Class in Victoria 1850-1880*. Melbourne: Oxford UP, 1991.
- Shorter, Edward. "Primary Care." *The Cambridge Illustrated History of Medicine*. Ed. Roy Porter. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1996. 118-53.
- Simons, Judy. "Invented Lives: Textuality and Power in Early Women's Diaries." *Bunkers & Huff* 252- 64.
- Simonton, Deborah. "Women and Education." *Barker and Challus* 33-56.
- Skedd, Susan. "Women Teachers and the Expansion of Girls' Schooling in England, C. 1760-1820." *Gender in Eighteenth-Century England: Roles, Representations and Responsibilities*. Ed. Hannah Barker and Elaine Chalus. London: Longman, 1997: 101-25.
- Smith, Sidonie and Julia Watson. *Reading Autobiography: A Guide for Interpreting Life Narratives*. Minneapolis: U of Minnesota P, 2001.

- Solomon, R.J. *Urbanisation: The Evolution of an Australian Capital*. Sydney: Angus and Robertson, 1976.
- Sontag, Susan. *Illness as Metaphor*. London: Allen Lane, 1979.
- Spacks, Patricia Meyer. "Female Rhetorics." *The Private Self*. Ed. Shari Benstock. Chapel Hill: U of North Carolina P, 1988. 177-91.
- Spiers, Edward. *The Army and Society, 1815-1914*. London: Longman, 1980.
- Stancombe, G. Hawley. *Highway in Van Diemen's Land*. Western Junction: G. Hawley Stancombe, 1968.
- Standish, Ann. *Australia Through Women's Eyes*. North Melbourne: Australian Scholarly Publishing, 2008.
- Staples, Max. "Sunshine and Shadow: The John Glover Sketchbooks." *John Glover and the Colonial Picturesque*. Ed. David Hansen and Peter Timms. Hobart: Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, 2003. 248-64.
- Stevens, Michael E., and Steven B. Berg. *Editing Historical Documents: A Handbook of Practice*. Walnut Creek: AltaMira P, 1997.
- Stoler, Ann Laura. *Race and the Education of Desire: Foucault's History of Sexuality and the Colonial Order of Things*. Duke UP, Durham, 1995.
- Stone, Lawrence. *Road to Divorce: England, 1530-1987*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1990.
- Thomas, Nicholas. *Colonialism's Culture: Anthropology, Travel and Government*. Cambridge: Polity P, 1994.
- Townsley, Wilfred Asquith. A. *The Struggle for Self-Government in Tasmania 1842-1856*. Hobart: Govt. Printer, 1951.
- Toynbee, Joseph. *The Diseases of the Ear: Their Nature, Diagnosis and Treatment*. Philadelphia: Blanchard and Lea, 1860.
- Trustring, Myna. *Women of the Regiment: Marriage and the Victorian Army*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1984.

- Uhl, Jean. *A Woman of Importance: Emily Childers in Melbourne 1850-1856*. Blackburn: Jean Uhl, 1992.
- Ulrich, Laurel Thatcher. *A Midwife's Tale: The Life of Martha Ballard, Based on Her Diary, 1785 - 1812*. New York: Knopf, 1990.
- Vickery, Amanda. *The Gentleman's Daughter: Women's Lives in Georgian England*. 1998. New Haven: Yale Nota Bene, 2003.
- Warren, David J. *Old Medical and Dental Instruments*. Princes Risborough: Shire, 1994.
- Webby, Elizabeth, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Australian Literature*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2000.
- , ed. *Colonial Voices: Letters, Diaries, Journalism and Other Accounts of Nineteenth-Century Australia*. St. Lucia: U of Queensland P, 1989.
- . "Colonial Writers and Readers." Webby, *Cambridge* 50-73.
- Welter, Barbara. "The Cult of True Womanhood." *American Quarterly* 18.2 (1966): 151-74.
- West, John. *The History of Tasmania with Copious Information Respecting the Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia*. 1852. Australian Classics. Sydney: Angus and Robertson, 1981.
- Westlake, Shirley, and David Westlake. *Old Tasmania in Sepia*. Adelaide: Rigby, 1979.
- White, Richard. "Cooees Across the Strand: Australian Travellers and the Performance of National Identity." *Australian Historical Studies* 116 (2001): 109-27.
- Williams, Brad. "The Archaeological Potential of Colonial Prison Hulks: The Tasmanian Case Study." *Bulletin of the Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology*. 29 (2005): 77-86.
- Wilson, Gwen. *One Grand Chain: The History of Anaesthesia in Australia, 1846-1962*. Melbourne: Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, 1995.
- Wilson, Kathleen. "Empire, Gender and Modernity in the Eighteenth Century." *Levine* 14-45.
- Wink, Amy. *She Left Nothing in Particular: The Autobiographical Legacy of Nineteenth-Century Women's Diaries*. Knoxville: U of Tennessee P, 2001.

Wood, Ann Douglas. “‘The Fashionable Diseases’: Women’s Complaints and Their Treatment in Nineteenth-Century America.” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*. 4.1 (1973): 25-52.

Woodward, Frances J. *Portrait of Jane: A Life of Lady Franklin*. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1951.

Complete Transcription of all Sections of Annie Baxter's Journal

Written in Van Diemen's Land, 1834-51

NOTES ON TRANSCRIPTION	1
FIRST VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND: 12 SEPTEMBER 1834 – 23 SEPTEMBER 1838	3
Notebook 1 (MS. Q181 Item 1): 1-177	3
SECOND VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND: 29 NOVEMBER 1844 – 7 MARCH 1845	69
Notebook 5 (MS. Q181 Item 5): 39-87	69
THIRD VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND: 28 NOVEMBER 1846 – 10 FEBRUARY 1847	92
Notebook 8 (MS. Q181 Item 8): 28 November 1846 – 31 January 1847 (53 – 92)	92
Notebook 9 (MS. Q181 Item 9): 7 February 1847 (1 – 6)	110
FOURTH VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND: 26 JULY 1848 – 18 FEBRUARY 1849	113
Notebook 10 (MS. Q181 Item 10): 26 July 1848 – 8 December (116 – 275)	113
Notebook 11 (MS. Q 181 Item 11): 10 December 1848 – 18 February 1849 (1 – 65)	172
FIFTH VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND: 15 JUNE 1849 – 15 JANUARY 1851	203
Notebook 11 (MS. Q181 Item 11) 186-232: 15 June 1849 – 13 August 1849	203
Notebook 12 (MS. Q182 Item 1): 14 August 1849 – 12 December 1849	227
Notebook 13 (MS. Q182 Item 2): 15 December 1849 – 4 August 1850	269
Notebook 14 (MS. Q182 Item 3): 4 August 1850 – 23 January 1851 (1 –128)	346

NOTES ON TRANSCRIPTION

The following transcription of Annie Baxter's extant manuscript journal is in excess of 170,000 words. It is derived from Notebook 1 (MS. Q181 Item 1): 1-177; Notebook 5 (MS. Q181 Item 5): 39-87; Notebook 8 (MS. Q181 Item 8): 53-92; Notebook 9 (MS. Q181 Item 9): 1-6; Notebook 10 (MS. Q181 Item 10): 116-275; Notebook 11 (MS. Q181 Item 11): 1-65 and 186-232; Notebook 12 (MS. Q182 Item 1); Notebook 13 (MS. Q182 Item 2) and Notebook 14 (MS. Q182 Item 3): 1-128. These notebooks are part of the thirty-two volume journal maintained by Annie between September 1834 and May 1858. The notebooks are held in the manuscript collection of the Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales. They are catalogued as MS. Q 181-183. All journal volumes have been microfilmed.

The primary principle of division for the transcript, like the abridged text, is the date and number of Annie's individual visits to Van Diemen's Land, however the journal notebook from which the material is derived is clearly identified according to its number in the sequence. This methodology is intended to alert the reader to the journal's materiality and structure as a series of individual but linked notebooks. The notebooks are extensively described in Appendix 1 of the thesis.

The editorial practice of this transcription follows that of the abridged text in most respects. However the following variations should be noted:

- Paragraphing has not been standardised. Paragraphs which begin on a new line or are indented are reproduced in accordance with Annie's practice and no attempt has been made to standardise these. However, gaps within a line have been omitted as there seemed no way in the transcription to clearly establish them as author's practice over editorial error.
- Those few instances where parentheses are indicated by a forward slash at each end of the relevant text are reproduced in the transcription.
- Page numbers are accurately reproduced and journal text can be identified according to notebook and page number. In the transcription, page numbers in square brackets signal the beginning of a journal text page. Pagination follows exactly the sequence of the notebook – a repeat page number is indicated with an asterisk (*). In those instances where Annie has not recorded a page number they have been inserted and signalled in a footnote.

- Dates have not been standardised nor are they emphasised in any way; however for clarity, where Annie has not indicated a change in the month, the month has been inserted in square brackets with the first entry for that month – all other variations for signalling a new entry are retained.
- Superscripted words, apparently added on rereading, are indicated by a three point raise from the baseline.
- The names of ships mentioned are transcribed as they appear in the manuscript; they have not been standardised.

Annotations in this transcription are limited to translation of French language and reportage of states of the text.

FIRST VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND: 12 SEPTEMBER 1834 – 23 SEPTEMBER 1838

Notebook 1 (MS. Q181 Item 1): 1-177

Annie Maria Baxter's Journal

"Augusta Jessie"

September 12th 1834

[1] September 12th 1834 – We yesterday embarked on Board the "Augusta Jessie" – Convict ship bound for New South Wales – She is a very beautiful ship – I feel more at home here than I thought I ever should on any vessel – My Uncle, John and Archibald Douglas came to see us – We sail today I believe in the afternoon –

13th Today we came from Deptford to about ½ a mile past Gravesend – A lovely day – The Doctor's wife (M^{rs} M^cTurnan) is on Board – She is a very pleasant woman – In the Evening the Doctor & Baxter played at Backgammon together – I worked –

14th A lovely morning –

15th The same –

16th We are getting on by degrees, as Lawyers go to Heaven – at Margate –

17th A fine day – We are anchored off Deal – A dreadful storm this evening –

[2] We cannot allways expect "Fair Weather" in this world –

18th A sultry day – M^r Edinborough,¹ D^r M^cTurnan, Baxter, M^{rs} M^cTurnan and myself went to Deal – A little dirty Place – We are past Dungeness & are going on very pleasantly indeed – I wrote to dear Harriet this evening – Tomorrow is her Birthday –

19th We passed Brighton, Hastings, etc today – A beautiful ^{Breeze} springing up in the evening – I am not very well – The Pilot thinks we shall be in Portsmouth tomorrow – I wrote to M^{rs} Briggs on the 17th from Deal –

20th Arrived at Spithead at two o'clock in the afternoon – D^r & M^{rs} M^cTernan, M^r Weir and the Captain all went ashore – I wrote to my Uncle immediately –

21st Baxter, M^r & M^{rs} M^cTernan & I went [5]² to Portsmouth – It is a fine town – The young Prince of Orange was there expected –

22nd M^r & M^{rs} M^cT, Baxter & I went to Portsea to shop – We then went to Kingston – M^r Weir went in the Evening

23rd All on shore but myself and little Husband –

¹ The last part of this name is crossed out and the correct spelling has been written above.

² Pages 3 and 4 are blank in the journal.

24th M^r & M^{rs} M^cTernan & I went into Portsmouth in the morning – Saw the Guard mounting – Convicts were coming on Board when we came from shore – I sent my picture to Harriet today –

25th No one went ashore today except M^r Weir in the evening – I am not among the class of happy mortals – Nor shall I be so again until I return to my native land – My beautiful workbox is missing – I sincerely trust it is not lost –

[6] 26th M^r & M^{rs} M^cTernan and M^r Weir came from shore about 4 o'clock in the evening – There is a capital story told of a soldier who, taking his child down stairs to bed, said, "Come to your wretched home my child, you shall have a better bye and bye" – Not knowing, unfortunate creature, if he could allways have the means of getting the little individual a mouthful of Bread, leave alone a home – ~~after he left the Augusta~~
~~Jessie~~ – Baxter shot two sea-gulls – if

27th We have been at Spithead a week today – Harriet wrote me a most affectionate letter – A lovely day –

28th Baxter and I went to church at Ryde (Isle of Wight) – It is a sweetly pretty place – The Captain returned in the evening –

[5]* ~~28th Baxter and I went to church at~~ Baxter & I & the rest of our party went on shore early – a fine day – I went to the Linen-drapers while my spouse went to D^r Waller's – In the afternoon we sailed with a fair Breeze – I wrote to my Uncle & Hal –

29th A lovely day – I am very sick –

30th In the Bay of Biscay –

October the 1st Still in the Bay – & litterally so, as [word under erasure] we are becalmed – Still sick –

2nd Quite calm and I am so likewise – We have beautiful weather –

3rd Still in the Bay of Biscayos! We have a M^r Moss on Board with us – he is a Jew – Poor fellow he leads a sad life – To think that the Christian religion should be so abused as to scoff at, a ~~person~~ rather than tolerate a [6]* person of any other – The time will be when we shall see our folly – May our God who looks at & protects the Jews equally with the Gentile pardon our frailties – I am delighted poor M^{rs} Thornbury is getting so very much better – We are nearing the Cape – where my beloved William is – I only trust he is as happy as I wish him & he is then among the happiest of mortals –

4th A lovely calm –

5th The Doctor read prayers to the Convicts – Nothing else occurred particular –

6th I am reading the memoirs of the Empress Josephine – Fine weather –

7th This day year, my darling William was married & today, I believe my Hal is to enlist in the Corps of “Matrimonials” – If my prayers be heard [7] she will be very happy in them – “Je ne me porte pas tres bien”³ – How truly delightful in six years it will be to come & lay my bones in my dear Old England – I feel convinced a longer life will not be mine –

8th A lovely day – Baxter caught a Starling –

9th A fine day – The poor little Bird had its wing cut & fell into the sea, where of course it was drowned – A ship in sight – I have just been on deck, walking by moonlight – It has given me the Blues! I suppose I must be a very very discontented person, for I am miserable with a good man, who says that he loves me,⁴ and with friends whom I have vanity enough to fancy will miss ^{me} from their circle – Today an accident was very near taking place with the Gunpowder – I am sure I shall be quite happy when I am [8] alone with Baxter in N. S. Wales – at least I propose the same in advance –

10th This morning the “Elizabeth” Whale Boat passed us & the captains held a short parley – In the afternoon when we were all on deck, we saw two water spouts at a distance – One continued some time & was very beautiful – Today has been rather showery – I am now reading “Mary, Queen of Scots” – Poor M^r Weir is not very well I think – I frequently now reproach myself with having been so constantly, (as I think) out of temper with dear Harriet & bring to mind her words “Well, Annie dear, we won’t quarrel as we may not allways be together” – How true those words were – I wish I could even hear her say that now –

11th A fine day – nothing particular has occurred today – T.A.V.W.

[9] 12th & 13th Nothing in particular, but old Quotil flogged – What a pity that an Attaché of mine should misbehave himself so far – I feel very far from well – I am afraid my old complaint is returning – We are going on but slowly –

14th A fine day – I am much better – Nothing particular occurred –

15th Today there is a nice breeze – we are this evening off Porto Santo – We saw a whale today – it is the first one I ever saw – but certainly it is not as large as I (a landswoman) had expected to see it –

³ “I don’t feel very well” (French).

⁴ The phrase “who says that he loves me” appears to be a replacement for other words. The faint outline of other words is suggested and the page is lighter, as if some words have been erased.

16th In the morning we passed Madeira & the Desertas, but saw neither – The weather being rather foggy – A fine steady fair wind, we running between the coast of Africa & the islands –

[10] 17th A fair wind – all suppose it to be the N. E. Trades – at 10 o'clock saw the island of Palma, still foggy weather – Palma is one of the Canaries –

18th Still a fine breeze but the weather very hazy – This evening the Doctor & I played Piquet together –

19th Sunday – The weeks roll on very very fast – when we consider they will never return. A thick Haze – Today is sultry – We are now at 4° above summer heat –

20th A fair breeze – not quite so warm – A very imposing scene has just taken place – one of the Convicts died this evening & was buried immediately – It is a solemn sight – Particularly when we think that we must all come to the same, one day or other – Were I prepared (I mean in a religious point of [11] view) I should be quite reconciled to die young – All the troubles of this world are then passed & nothing but happiness in sight –

21st A sultry day – We are getting on very well –

22^[nd] Today is very fine – We saw some flying fish – The Doctor, Captain & myself invented new alphabets – & M^r Moss made them out – I shall copy mine in the end of this book –

23rd A fine Breeze – very warm –

24th Today we came up with a Dutch Galiot – We held a parley – They are bound to Phernambicco – It is not quite so warm today –

25th Becalmed – It is literally boiling today – “There is not /in the words of Captⁿ Stonehouse/ a breath to govern the hatmosphere, nor a cloud to govern the sky” – I have just had my Box playing – It [12] reminds me of old Times – How silly girls are who leave friends & good ones too that love ~~you~~ them,⁵ to marry persons who profess to love them, but who soon get tired of their society – A few weeks back, I was vain enough to imagine that I was really loved – but for the future I shall know how to trust to appearance – I think after what I have suffered one way & the other for my husband, the least return /& the only one I ask for/ he could make, would be to love me. There was a Shark caught today – The Doctor shot it very well –

26th – Today is sultry – Sunday again –

27th – Not quite so hot, but very warm –

⁵ “Them” has been written as superscript above “you” which has been crossed out.

28th – This morning I breakfasted on a flying fish – In the course of the morning we observed a vessel coming towards us – It proved to be an English Brig – [13]⁶
 We spoke to her – & the Captain & Baxter went on Board her with letters from all of us – I felt as happy as if I were almost going to old England –
 29th – Today is sultry – It poured with rain all today –
 30th – Very squally indeed – I am writing to my dear old To[] –
 31st Three Sharks caught – We saw Dolphin & old Wives in number – Calm today – My left ankle is very painful – M^r Moss is going to take my Portrait – The Doctor very kindly wrote in my Album –
 November 1st – Saw a ship in the distance –
^x At night she neared us – at 8 o'clock we had a Squall –
 2nd – Today we saw the ship again –
^x We had our main- top-gallant Mast carried away in the wind – An alarm of fire given without any cause –
 [14]⁷ 3rd At twelve P.M. we spoke to a Brig – the “John Smith” – at about two o'clock the “Othello”, Liverpool Ship came up and the Captain & M^r Weir went on Board her with letters – My left ankle has been inflam'd for four days – I wrote to Hal, Toby, & Mother Reid –
 4th My ankle is worse today –
 5th Nothing but a squall today – My ankle is still inflamed –
 6th Wet today –
 7th A fine day – The wind is very contrary –
 8th Today, I have been married nine months – A fine day –
 9th – A fine breeze all today – it increased very much in the night –
 10th Today we crossed the line – a fine Breeze all day – I broke the little looking Glass – There is seven years misfortunes for me –
 [13]⁸ 11th Today Neptune paid us a visit – A fresh Breeze all today – We are likely to see Land tomorrow –
 12th A fresh breeze this morning – We are near the coast of Brazil –
 13th – A fresh breeze with beautiful weather – I am going to begin a letter to dear old Harry – I have a bad pain in my side –

⁶ Unpaginated in original

⁷ Unpaginated in original.

⁸ Not strictly speaking a repeat page number. AB has not paginated the previous two pages of journal text.

[16] 22nd Beautifully calm – A Brig in sight – I wrote to my dear William – My Uncle & Harriet likewise –

23rd Not a curl on the water even – The Brig quite close – Another ship in sight –

24th My birthday – I am eighteen – The Ships both “en avant”¹⁰ – A lovely day –

“Baxter is a wicked Boy” –

25th A dead calm – We saw three large sharks – A Brig & Barque in sight –

26th Lat: 2 – A little Breeze – the Brig just in sight – I am working the Doctor’s slippers – How glad I shall be when my friends & I are together – again –

27th Rather warm today – A little fair Breeze – Ships out of sight –

28th This day month my letters went to dear England – Last night I had a most delightful dream – I had been out in N. S. Wales – 6 years – & had [17] just returned to my own dear old Country – I ought not to wish my lot, different from what it is, but certain I am that I shall not regret going home again – The Captain & I had a quarrel –

29th My little spouse¹¹ took my part last night, like a hero – Fine day – Baxter caught a fine Dolphin the day before yesterday & did not keep it –

30th Last day in this month – A wet day – We are 1700 miles off the Cape –

1st of December – Wet day – Foul wind –

2nd Damp day – Wind not fair – I walked a mile & tenth on the Poop –

3rd A beautiful [breeze] all last night & this morning – Made myself a pair of slippers

4th A fair Breeze – several whales & Birds about – We are one thousand miles from Land – My darling is reading “Goldsmith’s History of England” out loud to me while I work –

5th – I don’t remember any time in my life that I was happier than I am now – Reading “Gallery of Portraits” –

6th I feel it very cold – one of the poor convicts is mad – God help him – it the most shocking calamity to be deprived of reason –

7th My old man is of age today – A Dutch ship close –

8th Today the carcass of a whale pass’d, with about 250 Albatross’s in its smite – The Cap^t, Doctor & M^r Glanville went in the Gig after it & brought back two Birds –

9th This morning an Albatross was caught larger than the other two – M^r Moss was very busy preserving the skins – The Down on them is beautiful – I made a pem with

¹⁰ In front of [us] (French).

¹¹ A word has been erased and replaced with “spouse”.

“Albatross” on it – Saw whales yesterday & today – [19] The Doctor has preserved a claw which I am going to make into a ~~reticule~~ Bag –

10th Nothing particular today – A fair wind –

11th A very fair Breeze – We saw such an immense number of porpoises – One Cape Pidgeon in sight – We are 400 miles from my dear old William –

12th A fine morning & wind – nothing occurred in particular –

13th A fine Breeze –

14th Fair Breeze still continues – My Bird’s claw looks well –

15th Allmost a calm –

16th Calm – No Birds about – I am so very very happy – My little Boy quite well –

17th Both my child & myself have colds – Today he /meaning my boy/ caught [20] an Albatross and then somehow let it go –

18th Fine day & strong Breeze – I should like to know how my old Friends in England are – God Bless them all – We have pass’d the Cape, where my darling is — & expect to see St Pauls on the 1st of January

19th Yesterday there were several whales about & numbers of Albatrosses – Today one of the Convicts died – A fine young man – I am teaching my Boy to play at Piquet – We think of seeing Hobart Town on the 26th of January – Quotil flogged again today – Unfortunate old sinner that he is! –

20th Fine day – Rained a little in the evening – My child’s cold rather better – I love that sweet girl “Annie” better than ever, she is truly a darling!!” Says Baxter! Tomorrow Sunday – (Deceit!)¹²

[21] 21st A heavy squall in the evening – one of a different nature took place down below in the Barracks – Mistress Hicky & her spouse, had a fight of course it was a sea-fight! – Oh! these little Domestic squalls! –

22nd A strong Breeze all day –

23rd Fresh breeze today likewise – For two nights I have not been able to sleep well – consequently I find myself with a head-ache –

24th Christmas Eve – I have no doubt, if our friends have not thought of us before today – they will now – I had all the children round the door to play at Snap-Dragon – Last year, I had the same games with my dear little Friends, the Reids –

¹² “Deceit” is written in a slightly different ink and is presumably a later addition.

25th Christmas Day – The convicts came last night to the Door & sung some Hymns, very [22] nicely indeed – Today they are going to chant the Hymns of the Day – God Bless all our friends in England – I dare say we are not forgotten by them – In the evening we had a fresh Breeze –

26th A gale of wind all last night & today – Poor little Andy had no sleep Last night on my account – The little Boy made up for it , tho' before dinner today –

27th A fine Breeze –

28th A strong Breeze – The Captain is busy talking “Big” – The Gentlemen amused themselves yesterday shooting at the Goose – Fine sport! “How I should like to know Adolphus” said the Captⁿ –

29th Calm today – My child caught an Albatross – 10 feet 6 inches from wing to wing – The men fired today – McDougall hit the Bull's-eye – Baxter gave him 8/6 [23] as a reward – they shot a Black fish –

30th Nothing but a fine breeze today –

31st & last day in the year – It is my prayer to that God who has preserved me so long, to continue his great goodness to the person, whom I love more, & value more than myself – my belov'd husband – and that we may live long & happily together – My friends are no doubt thinking of us today – My love will follow them wherever they go – I must turn over a new leaf –

A M Baxter Augusta Jessie

sailing for Hobart Town –

December 31st 1834 –

“Spared by the goodness of God to close this year, let us remember that our time is now shorter than ever; we are now one year nearer to an eternal world, either of happiness or woe! [”] –

[24] January 1st 1835 Thursday

A very fine day & nice little Breeze – We are about [word under erasure] eighty miles from the island of St Paul's – God bless our friends in England & my darling at the Cape – Last night the Captain & Baxter had another quarrel about M^r Lewis – I am reading “A collection of Voyages & Travels” –

2nd Misty, miserable day – Wind quite the contrary to our wishes – An albatross caught – it measured 10 feet – Last night poor Mistress Judith Walsh, had her midnight slumbers disturbed by M^r L Lewis –

3rd Master of his Majesty's ship "Augusta Jessie" – a youth bent on a "Lark" – My spouse gave his head a good thump – /oh! the very great vulgarity of that expression!/-

4th Sunday We imagine that I shall (with the rest of our fellow passengers) see Van Dieman's Land in three weeks – Today [25] /& I quite alarmed to relate it/ I sat down to have a tooth out, but my courage failed me – & I came away with my tooth – Tomorrow I must set to work – Having several little things to finish previous to my landing – My little Boy quite well!-

5th Nearly calm all day – M^r Weir monstrous queer – Writing to old Hal –

6th Twelfth Night – A Yankee on Board us to day – An Albatross caught [words under erasure] ~~very bad~~!

7th The American a little astern – A little Breeze –

8th A beautiful Breeze – The American out of ^{sight} nearly – Very hazy –

9th A lovely Breeze – only 1800 miles to Hobart Town – The Gentlemen smoked in the Cuddy

10th A very nice breeze – Baxter sat with Wallace an hour in the evening –

[26] 11th Poor Wallace died at ½ past five this morning – he was buried at about ½ past two – M^r Weir read the service – I had my tooth out today – & a nice big one two [sic]

12th A delightful breeze – Nothing particular occurred today

13th Today my tin case came up & all my bonnets nearly smashed – I put my white one on a beautiful shape – a fine breeze –

14th This day week they think we shall arrive in Hobart Town – We are all preparing for that grand event –

15th A delightful wind – Today M^{rs} Malcom & I packed up a few of the trapps – "The two Inseperables" – uncommon pleasant uncommon –

16th A fine Breeze still continues – Baxter packed up the "Oak Chest" – I finished the Nautical Quadrilles – M^{rs} Leveston confined with a little Boy –

17th A famous Breeze all night & today – My darling [27] had a very narrow escape of being killed last night – the boards from under my Berth, fell on to his little bed – but luckily the Bird had flown –

18th The Captain is having his "Arms" painted – & I verily believe it is in honor to his friends the "Light Bob" he is putting a bugle in them – The Doctor not well – Mistress Judith Welsh does not take sufficient care of her person – She & her medical attendant have not the constitution of "Joe Miller & Miss Emily Newton" – How blessed some

people are with cool temperatures! They were not so, when M^{rs} Briggs & I were young

– Calm this morning –

19th Calm –

20th Calm – a lovely day –

21st A lovely Breeze – & hazy morning, but clear'd up in the course of the morning –

22nd A fine Breeze – as we [were] sitting down to Luncheon the steward came to tell us, land was in sight – No one can imagine the joy I felt, except those who have felt it previously –

[28] 23rd Today about 11 o'clock the Pilot came on Board us – There is another Barque close to us – We arrived in Hobart Town about 8 o'clock – The scenery about here is very picturesque – There is a Man-of-War here called The "Hyacinth" – M^r Weir & Doctor went on shore –

24th Today Baxter & I came on shore about 2 o'clock – Met Major Deere & Colonel Leahy – we went with the former to the Mess Room – In the Evening we went with D^r McTernan & the Solicitor-General to a Fancy Ball at the Attorney-General's – M^r Stephen's – We slept at the "Freemason's Hotel" –

25th Went on Board early – Delivered some letters on Board the Hyacinth – It sails early tomorrow morning for Sydney – This place is not the cheapest I was ever in – M^{rs} Mackay & M^{rs} Peddie called today –

26th On shore at the Freemason's Tavern – Went to dine with M^{rs} Mackay – Captⁿ Peddie there in evening – M^r Mason called – I wrote to Hal –

[29] 27th My child out until 1 o'clock, when he came for me to accompany him on Board – we dined there – A ship arrived from old England – M^{rs} & the Misses Jean called – D^r & M^{rs} Scott & M^r McTernan likewise –

28th Today Baxter out all day – I & M^{rs} M — went to call on M^{rs} Peddie – My spouse¹³ & I dined alone & then went a long walk in the country –

29th A fine day – Baxter went on Board at seven this morning –

30th The Convicts landed today – The Guard likewise – A row with them in the evening – Baxter dined at Mess –

31st Today Baxter, Colonel Leahy the doctor & I went to astonish the Natives – They are curious & interesting – We bought a dinner Tea & breakfast set –

¹³ "Spouse" replaces another word, which has been erased, possibly later.

1st of February Baxter went with me to the [30] church like a ~~dear~~ good little Buoy [sic]!

2nd I did not go out until evening – & then my spouse & I went a long walk to Sandy Bay – M^r M^cDonall & the Doctor called –

3rd Today I called on M^{rs} Pilkinton – In the evening Baxter & I went with two of the Misses Jean for a long walk – He was told that they march on the day after tomorrow – I am reading “Belinda” –

4th This morning Baxter was with the rest of the men inspected by the Governor – They march tomorrow –

5th This morning at five o’clock my little Pet left this for Launceston – I do not start until this day week – M^r Young called in the afternoon & M^r and the Misses Jean in the evening – I went a long walk with them & then returned to this chateau to drink Tea – M^r Jean & M^{rs} Pringle escorted me to the door –

6th I am so annoyed at my little stupid’s¹⁴ forgetting the key of his Carpet Bag – [31] This evening I took a walk with Captⁿ & M^{rs} Peddie & Captⁿ & M^{rs} Mackay & then drank Tea with the Latter – I had a note from my little¹⁵ husband – How I wish I were with him again – for I’m so lonely –

7th This morning the Doctor came to see me & I called with him on M^{rs} Stephen

9th Today the Misses Jean, their Brother, the Doctor & I went to Government gardens I dined with M^{rs} Peddie ~

10th Today I dine with M^{rs} Mackay – We spent a remarkably pleasant evening – Capt^{ns} Peddie & Armstrong – and Mess^{rs} Seaton, M^cGregor, Mortimer & Young were there –

11th Captⁿ Peddie called today – Tomorrow I start for Launceston, to see my better half.¹⁶

[32] 12th Stopped at Oatlands tonight –

13th Arrived at Launceston at 8 o’clock in the evening – My little Boy waiting for me & had the house so nice for me –

14th Today Captⁿ Tew, Captⁿ & M^{rs} Boyd, & D^r & M^{rs} Seccombe called – likewise M^r & M^{rs} Barnes & M^r Sharland –

15th Went to church –

¹⁴ “Stupid’s” replaces another word which has been erased, possibly later.

¹⁵ Again a word appears to have been erased and replaced with “little”.

¹⁶ “Better half” is written as superscript above two words which have been vigorously crossed out. another two words which have been crossed out.

March 15th My Book has been away all this time – We have been to two Dances one at M^{rs} Barnes & the other M^{rs} Rabie's – Mess^{rs} Arthur, Franks, & Major Fairweather called on me – This evening Miss Woolrabe, Baxter & I went for a long walk –

16th This morning Baxter went out Kangaroo hunting & in the evening to the Barracks –

17th Nothing particular occurred – Baxter & I went to the Woolrabe's –

18th Miss W. came to tea – M^r Stapleton too –

19th I was sitting quietly reading my book [33] [this] evening & Captⁿ Tew walked in – and sat with me until nearly eleven, when Baxter came in from the Barracks –

20th I received a letter today from M^r Briggs from Hobart Town –

21st [and] 22nd Nothing happened –

23rd Miss Woolrabe spent the day with me – began a bonnet –

24th On Saturday last Captⁿ Tew dined with me – M^r Stapleton & Miss W. came in the evening –

25th Baxter out Kangaroo hunting – I called on M^{rs} Lyttleton & M^r Wright –

April 20th As there is nothing very very particularly interesting occurs here, I do not so often trouble my Journal – Last Sunday being the 12th day of this month, a wreck took place near to Hobart Town – Major Ryan commanded the Guard on Board the ship “George the [34] third”, and M^r M^cGregor was on Board likewise – one hundred and twenty eight lives were lost – It was indeed a most melancholy thing altogether – The two officers are now at Hobart Town – I wrote to my Uncle and M^r Woodward on the 11th inst. Today M^r B. went out Kangaroo hunting. Miss Wellman is to be married on Saturday next to M^r Mason –

April 25th M^r MacGregor died the day before yesterday – Miss Wellman was spliced yesterday –

May 4th Today I sent a letter to Miss Wells & another to M^{rs} Reid – a Newspaper to F Woodward Esq. – Baxter paid M^r Weir the day before yesterday – /L. W. by the Janet/

May 12th Today I wrote, by the Lotus, to my beloved Uncle Toby – Baxter wrote in it – My poor Tommy Tomkins, has been & still is ill –

[35] June 5th Miss Amy Kemp married to M^r Young of the 21st –

June 12th Miss Fanny Kemp married to M^r Jones of the Madras Cavalry – Today the Dorothis sailed. I wrote to Hal –

June 18th No fun going on in remembrance of the Battle of Waterloo – Baxter exchanged his horse for a nice little Mare – I am very ill –

June 19th Louise's piano comes today by the Norval from London – No letters –

June 28th I am writing by the “Anne” to Harriet, Cressy & my Uncle –

July 13th Dined at M^{rs} Jennings –

July 15th Dined at M^{rs} Wales –

August 1st Wrote to My Uncle Hal & M^{rs} R by the Lochiel – On July 31st wrote to M^{rs} Briggs –

August 22nd had a very slight Mishap – But why! In the name of the Prophet [36] trouble these pages with such trifles! Dear Baxter away all the week Kangaroo hunting – How much I wonder I receive no letter from my own Engineer –

October 5th Last night I dreamed that my Dearest Toby was dead – Poor Mary is to have her leg off tomorrow – We went yesterday a little PicNic to the first Basin -

Oct 6th Baxter dreamed last night that he murdered his Mother – God knows how far such a thought is from his dear good heart –

Dec 1st Had an extraordinary dream which I sincerely trust may never come true – Reading that work full of “Feeling” – Gilbert Earle – Talking of feeling my heart feels – queer – and a little pain in it too – Because I am married people can't imagine that I can have [37] any pain in my heart! If they could but feel it for a minute, or see into it – But why should I wish everybody to know what is passing there!

2nd Such a delightful day – A Déjeune à la fourchette – Déjà mon rêve est venu un peu vrai¹⁷ – I have not spent such a pleasant day since I left dear Old England

7th My boy's Birthday – twenty-two years old – I was nineteen on the 24th of last month – I fancy I am as “ill — — — — —”

22nd I was blooded on the day before yesterday – for a pain in my side – wrote to Constance Wells, Mama, & dear Hal yesterday by the “Westmoreland” – Baxter out all night hunting twice this week – Louisa went to Hobart Town on the 21st –

[38] 25th Never experienced such a warm Christmas Day – By ourselves to dinner – In the Eve went to M^{rs} Von's – Went to Church in the Morning

26th Invited to a fishing party – Dine at M^r Lyttleton's on Wednesday – Last week dined at the Barnes's – Lovely weather, only rather too hot – Dear old England I miss you & My friends more every hour – I think it is impossible ever to be quite reconciled to this Country – Nous verrons!

January 18th Rode on horseback today with my little man & Captain O'Hara –

¹⁷ A (Eng.) cosy lunch – already my dream has become a little bit true (French).

20th Rode out again today –

25th My dear friends the Lyttleton's went to Norfolk Plains – I shall miss them so very much –

February 7th My Darling's Birthday – Only one being fully knows how I wish him every happiness –

February 8th This day two years I was married – Today I came down to George Town, with my [39] truly delightful friends – I think I should like this little village –

Feb 9th Went on board the Ann, came ashore to dinner – invited to M^{rs} Friend's in the eve^s – did not go –

Feb 10th This morning Baxter & M^r Twines went to Launceston at 4 o'clock – At about ½ 8 we were hurried on board the Ann – M^r & M^{rs} Davies & Mess^{rs} Archer & Yeole went with our good friends the Lyttleton's – Such a parting I never again wish to see – Poor M^{rs} Davies will, I am afraid feel it very much –

Feb 11th Today M^r & M^{rs} Davies, M^r R Davies Miss Allan, M^r Yeole, Mess^{rs} M^cLeod, Baxter & myself went to York Town, dined there & came home at 9 o'clock –

Tomorrow we start for Town –

Feb 13th This morning Baxter and M^r Yeole went at 5 o'clock to Launceston – we follow them at 12 – M^r Joclyn Thomas breakfasted with us – Poor M^{rs} Davies is most dreadfully bitten with Musquitoes – [40] A good anecdote about the Dog under the Pear Tree – took place today – Singing coming home – I shall come down here again – soon I think. It is extremely close this morning –

Feb 21st The Governor in Town – Today I came out to Norfolk Plains – On Thursday week a large Ball is given at Government Cottage –

Feb 28th Today I returned to Launceston –

March 3rd We went to a delightful Ball at the Government Cottage – It was kept up late – Baxter is not very well – The races were last week – The company at the Ball was very mixed – M^{rs} G Horne was the prettiest woman in the room, altho' not a morsel of style about her – D.-S.-C.-J.-M.-S.-L French.

March 12th What a miserable day I have passed today – thinking of my own dear Country & friends – I may try to forget past days – but I never shall be able to do so – Entirely –

[41] March 14th M^r Smith & M^{rs} Hazard dine here today – Comme je suis emmigree – presque à la mort¹⁸ – M^{rs} Horne dined here too & the Davies came in from “Norfolk Plains” & stayed the evening with us – I feel very poorly indeed –

March 15th Had on two dozens of leeches on my side –

March 16th Put a blister on over the leech bites –

March 17th In bed all day

March 18th Much better today – writing to Harriet and M^{rs} Lyttleton –

March 20th Today I came to Mr Davies – Mr and M^{rs} Horne – Mr and M^{rs} W Archer – & Mr Kenworthy – dined here –

24th Dined at M^{rs} T Archer’s today – I am getting much better –

25th Today Captⁿ O’Hara comes out –

27th Mama’s birthday today – she enters her 50th year – M^{rs} Dumeresq & Captⁿ O’Hara left today – Baxter for the first time in his life went to church three times – I am going to write to my Darling –

[44] 29th Baxter & M^r Stapleton came out this evening – M^r Sains too – They return the day after tomorrow –

31st Good Friday – Dined at M^r & M^{rs} M^cLeod’s at Perth. Poor M^{rs} Davies is suffering very much with the Face ache –

April 2nd Baxter & M^r Franks came out today

4th They returned today – I go into Town on Thursday – I sent M^{rs} Lyttleton’s & Harriet’s letters today – and William’s –

April 29th On Monday I came out to Mr Davies’ – Today we go to M^{rs} Ashburner’s – I feel very dull lately – and cannot tell Why? Ah! if we could but reach our own hearts –

30th Yesterday we dined at M^{rs} Dumeresq’s – and in the evening went to M^{rs} W Archer’s – M^r and M^{rs} Frankland were there – The former is certainly the most agreeable person I ever met with –

[45] May 1st Today a dinner at M^{rs} Davies’ – M^r Frankland took my likeness –

2nd On the 27th I had a letter from my Uncle – Today I came home – We are going to write to my Uncle by the ship Elizabeth Taylorson – Well & I must make up my mind to stay in this colony! In that case I fear my existence will be but short! But there is a God who knows all the desires of our hearts, & who thinks fit to grant to us sometimes, things that we scarcely dare think of – To his protection I commend myself!–

¹⁸ As I am doomed to remain an expatriate for the rest of my life (French).

4th Today poor M^r Hatton left this world of sorrow – Surely God takes the best of us first: for never was a better creature born than he! How often do we see that the case in a family – the favorite sister or brother is lost to us, while the one that we should not have missed so much remains with us!

10th Today M^r T Archer drove me out to Woolmers’ where I am to do the agreeable until Monday next –

14th Spending my time most delightfully at [46] Woolmers – M^r T Archer doing “pensive” – Comme j’ai rêvée hier au soir d’un Monsieur [word under erasure] – je ne l’oublierai jamais¹⁹ – I this evening received a letter from Mama – Baxter came out in the evening – Poor M^{rs} Woolrabe died on Thursday last –

June 16th M^{rs} Hazard has been staying with me four days – The day before yesterday she sailed for Sydney! I have been very ill – & am still far from well – Last night poor “Harry my pretty lad” met with a sad accident – I sincerely trust he will not lose the use of his hand –

On Monday last M^{rs} Hazard & I dined at the Mess and passed a very pleasant evening – July 7th We have been seven days in our new cottage. I like it better every day – Quarter sessions going on – Today two strange Masculines paid me a visit – Baxter is Paymaster now – Captⁿ O’Hara is at Perth– No news from England or America – Tomorrow I am going out riding again; with the Major – Miss Reiby was married last Tuesday week to C. R. Arthur –

[47] July 22nd Yesterday Cap^t O’Hara came into Town & brought me the good news that my beloved William is promoted to 1st Lieut.–

We went to a Dance at M^{rs} Simpson’s – Today Baxter is gone to Woolmers – I am going on Tuesday – Wrote to my Uncle by Sydney – on the 18th inst. Reading Kirke White’s remains – Received two Papers from Mama on the 10th per “Eveline” – Beautiful weather now –

August – 6th I am very poorly indeed – Something the matter with my spine –

18th Received a letter from Harriet & three papers from Mama – had sad intelligence respecting poor Major Colclough – Still very ill –

¹⁹ I dreamed yesterday evening of a Mr [word under erasure] – I will never forget it (French).

Sept 1st Today I sent the Desk to Harriet – a brooch – with letters to herself & husband ~ Miss Thompson & dear William – Not able to leave the sofa – Dans l'après-midi un est venu me voir²⁰ – I.I.S.I.L. A.V.A. I D. H –

Sept 29th Came out to Perth to stay with M^{rs} M^cLeod. On the 1st of October Baxter, M^r Youl, & M^r Smith [48] – came to call and went on to Mr Youl's – On the 28th arrived a letter from Mama dated Sept 1st /35 by Captⁿ Bowler of the 80th

Oct 6th Returned home from Perth.

9th Went to a delightful dance at M^{rs} Reiby's – All the world there – not much of the beau-monde²¹ tho' –

10th I am going to stay with Maria for a few days

16th Stayed with M^{rs} M^cLeod for 5 days – & am now with Maria – Going to write to M^r & M^{rs} Lyttleton on the 14th wrote to Buckmaster & to Mama –

20th Wrote to My Uncle by the Guiana –

24th Today I returned home from Norfolk plains. Mama's letter went by the Elphinstone –

Nov 16th I had a letter from my Uncle and one from Mama in which she tells me of poor Major Colclough's death. (Send United service Club, Charles Street, Haymarket, London).

Dec 3rd Col Snodgrass is over here – The Ann came in on Saturday evening – M^r Smith left Launceston last month – we all miss him sadly –

[49] Dec 11th We came out here today to make ready for the Dejeûné²² which will take place on the 13th –

Dec 13th Today the Fête took place – upwards of 300 persons here – the dejeûné was excellent – all went off well – fireworks good – Miss Langdon is staying with Maria – she is a most interesting girl – (The dining bower~ 74 feet by 24)

Dec 14th This evening we went to M^r Ellistone's to see the boys fencing – they break up tomorrow – we came home at 1 o'clock – very tired –

Dec 20th Today we went to Perth to witness the (or rather celebrate the wedding) of Doctor Salmon & his bride (Miss M^cLeod) We dined at three o'clock & danced until ½ past 7 – when we returned home – (Gothic)²³

²⁰ One [someone] came to see me in the afternoon (French).

²¹ Literally "the beautiful world" but used colloquially to indicate (the world of) fashionable society (OED).

²² Luncheon (French).

²³“(Gothic)” is written in paler ink than the other journal text.

Dec 21st Today M^r Davies, Miss Langdon, & myself started for Oatlands – This evening we staid at Wanstead – M^r Willis's –

Dec 22nd Today we came to Oatlands – where M^r Langdon met his daughter – I went to see Captⁿ & M^{rs} Peddie – [50] M^r Davies & I then went as far as M^r Kermode's where we remained during the night –

Dec 23rd This morning we started for Longford – We remained at Cambletown, at M^{rs} W Bedford's an hour – we then went on & arrived at Woolmers at ½ past 6 o'clock in the evening –

Dec 24th Christmas eve – we came home this morning – I am very tired – The Eden – Prison ship arrived in Hobart Town – Baxter has been at Ben Lomond all the time I have been away – Wrote to M^{rs} Lyttleton & Harriette – but did not mention the Dejeûné –

Dec 25th Christmas-day – the day on which we should be so happy – when a Saviour was born, for us sinful creatures – Yet how is this great event celebrated? by Drunkenness & all sorts of riot – God is forgiving! but will he not ask with the disciple “How oft shall my brother offend, & I forgive him?” – Yes – and we may dread the 70 times 70.–

The third Christmas I have been from old England –

[51] Dec 27th Today I came home and had a letter from Eliza Reid – Maria came in too –

Dec 28th Today M^r Smith's & M^{rs} Hazard's letters came by the William – Andy returns tomorrow – Beginning to preserve – Called on M^{rs} J Reiby –

Dec 31st Had two papers from Hal – & one from Mama – The last day in this year – May God preserve me to see dear Old England & my friends again – & them to spend many many happy years –

Launceston
Van Diemen's Land
Dec. 31st 1836
AMB

[52] January 1st 1837–Sunday –

Another year come! May I ask myself whether more wisdom is come with it? My conscience will not let me answer the question satisfactorily – I am not any nearer my

salvation than two years back. nor as near for am I not sinning daily? – Hold thou up my goings that my footsteps slip not! –

Jan 11th Today I received a parcel from dear Hal with two letters from her & one from D^r M^cTernan – In the afternoon went to Perth –

Jan 13th Last night I went to M^{rs} Salmon's – was very ill when I returned home – This evening a small Quadrille party was given here –

14th I came home with Captⁿ Tew –

~~Feb~~ Jan^r 30th Stayed at “Clarendon” – M^r Cox's – & the next day proceeded to a Ball at Cambletown – It was a very pleasant one – Sir John & Lady Franklin were there – I went to Ashby with M^{rs} Abbott –

Feb 1st Today I came as far as Woolmers – Tomorrow I go into Town with M^r & M^{rs} T Archer –

[53] 3rd Lady Franklin held a Drawing-room – and such a mèle [sic] – Mon Dieu!²⁴

5th Shall I ever forget this day, seven years! Never! the heart can never forget its first impressions – et toi, mon bien-aimi ou est tu? – tu ne pense pas à moi – c'est égal! – je t'aimerai toujours²⁵ – I wrote to Harriet & M^{rs} Lyttleton by the Ann –

23rd Today Captⁿ Tew M^r & M^{rs} Cock, Margaret, M^r R Davies Baxter & myself went down to the Eliza – in which vessel we arrived at George Town in, on the evening of the next day –

25th Today we all went for a Pic-Nic to [word under erasure] East Burn – M^{rs} Gillies one of our party – a most ignorant insignificant little body she is too! –

26th M^r Davies, M^r M^cLeod Margaret, Marion, Jessie Baxter & myself went to the heads – dined there & when we came home, I bathed – we spent the Eve at M^{rs} M^cLeod's –

27th Today we went [to] a Pic-Nic to York Town – [54] poor M^r Davies was taken very ill this morning – A Ball & supper at M^{rs} M^cLeod's –

29th Returned to Launceston today –

March 1st Races today – I did not go –

2nd I went to the races today – M^r W Abbott drove me there in M^r Cheyne's tandum –

3rd Ditto – Ditto – M^r Thos Archer & M^r W Abbott started on their way to Hobart Town directly after the Races – They sail for England on the 9th

²⁴ My God (French).

²⁵ And you, my good friend where are you? – you don't think of me – it doesn't matter – I will love you always (French).

7th Mama's birthday – she is 50 – Baxter at M^r Henty's – M^{rs} Friend spent the day with me – I wrote to Hal & D^r M^cTernan by the Anrigu –

13th Captⁿ O'Hara's birthday – M^r Dry drove his sister, Baxter & myself out to Perth where my better half dined with his brother officers – the rest of us drove on to M^r James Youl's – we remained there that night –

14th This morning M^r Connoly, D^r Landell, M^r Smythe M^r M^cLeod & Baxter came – we had Luncheon and then started for M^r Youl's at Kelvin Grove – when M^r James Youl drove Miss Connoly, Miss Dry & his two sisters. [55] D^r Landell drove me in his gig – the remainder of the Gentlemen rode on horseback – we arrived early in the evening – Dined & then wandered about to see this pretty spot – it is surrounded by mountains & a pretty creek runs close by the house – in the evening we danced out of doors by fire light – we went to bed at about eleven –

15th This morning we started early for the marsh where we intended encamping the night – Misses Youl, Miss Dry & D^r Landell rode in the Bullock cart – Baxter & M^r James Youl on the horse-cart – Miss Connoly too – I rode “Light-foot shaving-brush!”: (an elegant name for a pony with no tail.) M^r Cox overtook us soon – we got to M^r Gurveys about 11 o'clock – and he was kind enough to say he would show us the way – we had not gone far when the cart broke down – I then got on to M^r Gurvetts' Mare – & the ladies were put on the different horses with us – we arrived in the Marsh about 3 o'clock – dined & the evening was spent in Dancing & singing –

[56] 16th This morning at daylight we prepared for the expedition – I mounted “Cocky” with no saddle – Miss Dry, “Judy” – Miss Connoly, Twipen – Elizabeth, the Mare & Miss Youl, “Light-foot” – after much persuasion – we certainly put up with every fatigue well – & I feel persuaded, but for the state of excitement that was kept up – we never should have reached the top of the Majestic Ben Lomond – Had it been possible I would have undergone twice the difficulty to have seen so beautiful a scene – when we reached the foot we had something to eat & drink & we then went up to the summit – Elizabeth & M^r Cox remained at the foot – What heart, what soul in this party did not feel the presence of one Great immortal being – the very rocks seemed to confess that altho' high – there was yet a more exalted place – for they hang down their necks & seem to feel that they belong to the dust over which they raise they [sic] proud heads. I must say that sailors & persons constantly [57] exposed to danger should be more seriously inclined than those who stay at home all their lives – for almost every step they take they see the Greatness of the One being – & must confess the care he takes of

us his sinful flock – Lord! what is man that thou shouldst etc – is then our exclamation constantly –

We came down faster than most of us had ever intended – I'm sure – for to tell the truth we slipped all the way nearly – we reached the tent at about 6 o'clock, after taking some refreshment at M^r Gurvett's – we found D^r Landell making a fine steamer; so inviting did the fire look, we were allmost inclined to boil a gallop to come up – We staid up dancing & singing until very late –

17th St Patrick's day – we were up early & started for M^r John Youl's – a leaping match between Mess^{rs} Dry & M^cLeod after we got in – and a ride on the tree – dined & Danced in the evening – Tom Burrowes came over & brought a fiddling friend with him – in the [58] middle of a Quadrille the tree in which the fire was made – fell – & nearly on us – however our active limbs cleared the ground well –

18th We left Kelvin Grove to return to Symmon's Plains – D^r Landell drove me back – M^r Youl had charge of all ~~all~~ the other ladies – the gentlemen all rode – We arrived at Clarendon – & there we were obliged to remain – for the Dark sex – were not sufficiently enlightened to drive us home, altho' it was midnight –

19th Sunday – Today at about 2 o'clock we came to Symmon's Plains – dined there & at ½ past 5 – we came into Launceston – M^r Dry drove us – Baxter & all the other guests remained the night –

20th I went out riding with Captⁿ Tew & M^r Stapleton M^r Connolly called – M^r Dry took out Miss Youl's veil – I don't remember ever spending a more delightful week – certainly not since I left England +

22nd Came out to Norfolk Plains – M^r & M^{rs} Freeman –

23rd Good Friday – Went to church –

[59] 25th Easter-day – Went to church in the morning – Baxter and Captⁿ Tew came out. Mess^{rs} Davies & Freeman with M^{rs} Freeman went on to Perth – in the Evening we all went to the Longford church

Tuesday – March 28th /37 Dear Maria was this morning confined – a son & heir – came into this world of sorrow – he is blessed with good parents – may it therefore prove to him a happy one – He's a nice little red thing – with dark hair – In the evening I went over to Woolmers –

29th Stayed at Woolmers – Mess^{rs} Biscoe & Bury here –

30th Went to Panshanger – a lovely spot

31st I am going today to M^r J Youl's to a shooting party – I don't feel very well – M^{rs} Archer & Martha gone to Maria's – How much I wish to hear from England – it is so long since I did so – On m'appelle Coquette – Mais je ne la suis pas – tant qu'une dame, qui doit savoir bien mieux!²⁶ – My good spirit says – “Annie, don't be scandalous!” Shall I mind my few whispers of cons-cience! – [60] Conscience! did I say – Where is it? What is it? Je ne le connois pas!²⁷ –

April 1st Arrived about 3 o'clock ~~today~~ yesterday – dined & in the Evening – D^r & M^{rs} Salmon – Mess^{rs} M^cLeod – M^r & Miss Dry – two Mr Jones' – M^r Connoly – M^r Mackintosh – came – we danced until 6 o'clock this morning, when we gave M^r Smith's health with three cheers – we then went to bed & slept until nine o'clock – the Gentlemen went shooting all but M^r Cheine & M^r Smythe – we breakfasted – & then danced – in fact I think we were nearly as merry a party as the Ben Lomond one –

2nd Sunday D^r M^cTernan is arrived in Hobart Town – he brought me letters from Harriet, Mama, & my Uncle – I do hope he will come and stay with us – I am going into Launceston on Thursday – I went to Perth to church & came back with M^r Davies to Longford – Maria & the baby doing nicely – M^r Archer's birthday –

3rd Nothing particular occurred –

4th D^r Landell came – M^r Davies went to the farm –

[61] 27th Came out with Norman M^cLeod to Perth – a dance given here tomorrow – M^r Sinclair & Captⁿ O'Hara here –

28th At 7 o'clock A.M. the ladies began to arrive – a pleasant evening – Miss Gough – the nicest looking girl in the room – (to my taste!) M^r Hazlewood the “Beau” danced until ½ past six – at seven M^r Dry Miss Dry, Miss Youl & myself came into town – Miss Y is coming to stay with me tomorrow – I forgot to say that the Dance was in honor of Major & M^{rs} M^cL's 31st wedding day –

May 28th Major & M^{rs}, Marion & Jessie M^cLeod have started for Sydney in the Richard Bell – I wrote to M^{rs} Hazard – and sent a packet to D^r M^cTernan enclosing letters to my Uncle, Mama, Harriet & Miss Woodward – Paid a visit to the Bride M^{rs} Kenworthy.

1st [June] Poor Papa has been dead 15 years & Grandpapa 16 today – I wrote to dear Toby – on the 28th of last month I wrote William a long letter –

²⁶ People call me a coquette – But I am not so much that as I am a lady who ought to know much better (French).

²⁷ I don't know the answer to these questions (French).

Reflections – Really Annie, you write more to your friends than they will like paying the postage for!

[62]²⁸ Why do I write to any-body – not because I like them! For upon my word I often wonder if I love any person in the world – my wondering at last brings me to this conclusion – that I love, frequently love – myself! (I’ll just look for the word wonder in Walker’s Dictionary – Wonder – v. n. To be struck with admiration – to be pleased or surprised so as to astonish!) wonder is not the word then – for I’m not astonished at loving myself!

Reader? are you? – æ²⁹

June 15th Reading the “Disowned” – very prettily written – but in a peculiar style – the author is very fond of Metaphysics – Tremaine & he would argue well –

17th Getting deep (not sly) in my book – all by myself this wet evening – No! Not by myself when my books are left me! I’ve got a little touch of the Blues – (I should like to be a little of the Blue too!) Married 4 years, & writing like a silly girl – /Now for a new leaf – – –

[63] Monday 25th Hier au soir j’ai rêvée bien drôlement: – Un M^r D – – A. L. B. L M I³⁰ – – – Je ne l’oublierai jamais³¹ – I never ~~felt~~ experienced the same sort of feeling but on the 5th of February 1830 –

On Friday I spent a very pleasant afternoon at M^r Dry’s – Baxter went out to M^r Youl’s – & returned on the following day – My dear little daughter wrote me a long letter – Poor soul! she has her little vexations – I must go out to Maria’s this week – she is in low spirits – & says she wishes me to go & comfort her with my merry face – My face is merry – But my heart! is that? No – I feel every day more gloomy – when by myself – yet why should it be so – I committed no crime – – but – one lasting one against myself –

I’ve frequently heard people say – that if a girl of eleven is smitten – the infatuation is sure to wear off – what would the pretended wise ones – say – of a girl of that age being smitten (as they term it) of concealing that feeling for two years – when her object confessed the same for her – & she was led by youth & passion to make a corresponding confession – [64] Her friends told her that he intended to trifle with her –

²⁸ “Wonder. The effect of novelty upon ignorance” is written at the top of page sixty-two. The ink colour is browner and the hand is not that of Annie Baxter.

²⁹ Author’s footnote. “æ Amaze will do better –/A-maze – a place you once get in – but not out so easily – / Now I can’t get out of the way of hating mankind/ I mean Woman-kind too/ & loving myself!”

³⁰ Something has been erased and replaced with these letters.

³¹ Last evening I had a very peculiar dream: -- a Mr D[ry] ... I will never forget it (French).

that he was dissipated – that he could not love so truly a child – this was done for 3½ years – when being told she should ^{marry} a very old man with an immense fortune – she preferred running into the extreme & married a young one with no fortune – 4 years have passed – she is abroad I think – but she declares against ever seeing her first – (& in my humble opinion) – her only love – Tell me – ye judges of children's feelings! – Is this infatuation?

26th I've written to M^r Briggs – I wonder whether we shall ever go to Sydney – I would like it – now that we are so near we may as well see the places –

(The W. Wise & Magnet in this week from England) –

July 10th Baxter & M^r Stapleton out hunting – Captain Tew & I went for a ride – This evening there's a large winding-sheet in the candle – I'm rather superstitious I must own, & do not like these sort of things – I shall hear of some death –

I forgot to mention that I received a long letter from my dear little friend M^{rs} Hazard – [65] My journal! I always come to you to enumerate all my grievances! No one shares the secrets of my heart as you do! – & why? Because your pages like my little troubles will never be seen! – I feel an almost unusual depression of spirits tonight – Poor Mr Young of the 21st was drowned the week before last – he leaves a young widow – how much I pity her, if she loved him – even if she did not – why one gets accustomed to see a person – & when they die – you feel lonely – miserable

July 20th Yesterday I came to Norfolk Plains with Mess^{rs} Youl & Dry –

21st I received a letter from Harriette & one from Cox & Co. The former tells me that my own dear William is very ill. Worse news it would have been impossible to tell – unless of his death – This would be one of the many instances in which the best goes first – but I am anticipating a Death-blow – to myself & my dearest wishes – William is the last of his race – at least of the name of Hadden – I have a strange idea in my curious brain!

22nd Today M^r Dry drove my [sic] into town – on the 24th [66] we dine at M^{rs} Salmon's – a report that we shall be sent from this place soon – I almost hope not – I like the people about here –

Received a long letter from M^{rs} Hazard – she sent the fork & some pretty satin for my bonnet – I've written to Harriette by the Ann Wise –

August 3rd Last night M^r James Henty gave a delightful dance – Dieu! comme j'étois heureuse un peu du tems – Mais quand je pense que je suis mariée – et il ne faut que

j'aime personne mes chateaux en espagne s'en va!³² The Allens were here all night –
 Encore j'ai rêvée bien drolement – Ah! J'ai peur que mon rêve ne viendra jamais!³³ –
 Jessie Allen & Miss Dry were decidedly the best looking people in the room last
 evening – I never felt such a fright before – The Beau! I've no idea of –
 How I shall regret leaving this! when I first came I was quite determined never to love
 any-body – but – some people you can't help loving – Quoique cela coûte la paix³⁴ –
 We have changed our quarters – and are rather more comfortable than in the other
 house – I rode out of town with [67] M^r Youl – No News in the town – M^{rs} Hazard used
 to tell me I had great control over my feelings – I'm afraid she would not find so much
 now as then – Upon my word I fancy "We met" must have been written for me, for the
 words correspond much with my case – "The world may think me gay" etc – I'm now
 going to bed – to dream I hope – God Bless all I love –
 Aug 7th Today I had a very nice ride with Miss Cox, M^r & Miss Dry & M^r Smythe – I
 rode Fair-play – M^r Friend and Captⁿ Tew came in the evening – Baxter left this
 yesterday for Ben Lomond – he returns in a week – Miss Youl spent yesterday with me
 – D T L R D O N! (English.)
 8th Today Jessie Allen came up to stay with me –
 9th Jessie, Captⁿ Tew, M^r Dry & myself went for a ride –
 10th Today Brien threw me – not hurt –
 11th Rather sore (or tender!) – but nothing to signify –
 12th Went for a ride with Jessie & Captⁿ Tew – an English mail & no letters for me –
 30th Jessie left me on the 27th – She is a very nice girl – we had several pleasant days –
 Rien ne [68] donne plus de peine que la jalousie – et j'ai bien souffert la semaine
 passée³⁵ – On the 22nd M^{rs} Landale gave a most delightful dance – I have not had so
 pleasant an evening for an immense time – T W T R D D L M! (English)
 My own dear William – how much I wish I knew how he was – I am afraid he's too
 good for this world of sin – I never loved but one as much as dear William & he has
 caused me misery enough – & I, him –

³² Oh God! How happy I was for a bit of the time – But when I think I'm married and I must be in love with nobody my dreams for the future are vanishing (literally "my castles in Spain are going away") (French).

³³ Again I have had a very peculiar dream – Ah! I fear that my dream will never come true (French)!

³⁴ Although that comes at the cost of peace (French).

³⁵ Nothing gives more pain than jealousy – and I suffered a lot the last week (French).

It little signifies now – if his vow keeps him unmarried why – there may be much unhappiness spared him – M^r Dry's manner remind me sometimes of George's – (M^r W—y, I mean) –

Tomorrow I go to Norfolk Plains – to dear Maria's – what a happy soul she is! I've got a wretched cough – I don't know when I shall get rid of it – how much I have dreamed lately – & not allways very agreeably – Today M^r Dry drove his four-in-hand – it looked very well – & he particularly avenant!!

[69] Aug 30th [sic] Today I came out to N. Plains – Baxter drove me to Perth – M^r Davies to N. P. –

Sept 4th On the 15th is M^r Davies' Birthday – the 19th M^r Woodward's – the 20th M^r Dry's –

7th Yesterday we went with M^{rs} Archer to Panshanger – M^r Price was with us – rather gentlemanly –

9th Today Captain Tew & Baxter came out – a M^r Davies is staying here – on the 15th I'm coming out again – Tomorrow I go in – Yesterday I felt very ill & in most miserable spirits – Poor M^{rs} Briggs is not expected to live – poor soul! She leaves three young children – I shall take Maria – and try as little as possible that she shall feel the loss of her mother.

Today the independent chapel is opened

12th I came into Town with M^r Davies – The New Police Magistrate is arrived – 3 years today since we embarked for this colony –

13th Baxter is gone out ~~shooting~~ hunting My cough is very troublesome – Reading Salathiel –

16th Yesterday we went out to N. Plains – it was M^r Davies' birthday – [70] Priest fell with me – he is 31 – & today I returned with M^r & M^{rs} Pening – Roscoe is gone to goal [sic] for breaking into the storeroom & taking spirits.

On our arrival – two letters were here – one from M^r B Baxter – telling us of poor M^{rs} Briggs' death – she died on the 20th 21st of August – of ossification of the heart –

October 7th On the 5th (after violent persuasions) I was allowed to depart in peace to M^r Sinclair's dance – everybody said “they did not expect the pleasure of meeting me there” – a genteel way of telling me I should have staid at home! – perhaps I should! had it be “I wish” etc instead of “You shall not” – the dance would have gone out of my head – People think it strange that I like a party better than home – They cannot see my heart – or they would soon find out the reason! N'importe, je ne serai jamais heureuse –

la vie a pour moi peu de charmes!³⁶ and it is all the better as I don't think I shall be long for this [71] world – & I shall feel the less reluctance in quitting it! – finished Salathiel – I feel very ill this morning – How much I dread the summer – I do suffer so much from the heat –

I forgot to mention that on the 26th of last month – I had a dear letter from my beloved brother dated January 1st/37 –

16th Answered dear William's letter – returned last evening from Gaddesden – we left Town on the 11th & spent the evening at Symmon's Plains – the next day we started at about 12 o'clock – & after staying an hour at the squeaker's & a little while at Campbell Town we arrived at M^{rs} Penny's – a lovely spot – I never should get tired of it – the theatricals went off in very good style – the dance very pleasant ~~but I have enjoyed myself more sitting~~ [illegible words] ~~quietly chatting with~~ — – la pensee seulement – me trouble les sens!³⁷ ~~I think dear~~ [word under erasure] ~~that I have certainly~~ [word under erasure] ~~myself more than I did you altho' I know you feel more~~ –

[74]³⁸ Oct 26th Today I had two letters from England – one from Mama & the other from my Uncle – the [] which contains good news – answered by Baxter & myself per Cygnet –

Nov My spine is beginning to trouble me – altho' it is not very warm – we heard of the late King's death & Queen Victoria's accession to the throne – may it prove a happy reign – she has a long one in prospect –

Nov 19th Baxter received his box by the Artemise – We yesterday luncheoned with M^r Connolly – & in the evening I went to M^{rs} Quandale's – Maria is going to the Westward on Monday – I follow on Wednesday.

La semaine passee fut bien triste³⁹ – Louise Woolrabe is returned home again – a very elegant looking girl – to my taste – On dit⁴⁰ – that we shall go to Sydney in March – I hope not – j'aime bien de personnes ici⁴¹ –

Dec 3rd How much have I suffered since I last wrote in my journal – I'm afraid a complaint has now taken root which will never leave me – [75] C'est ma faute⁴² – I

³⁶ Never mind, I will never be happy – life for me has little charm (French).

³⁷ The mere thought troubles my senses (French).

³⁸ Pages 72 and 73 have been cut out.

³⁹ The past week was very sad (French).

⁴⁰ Literally "one says" but colloquially "they say" or "people say" (French). This phrase appears on a number of occasions throughout the transcription.

⁴¹ I like the people here a lot (Fr.)

went to see M^r C Friend yesterday – Poor fellow he looks miserably ill – Captain O’Hara is in town again – il a l’au bien jaloux – mais n’importe – je le deteste⁴³ – Somehow I cannot write here tonight – I feel rather prosy too – if I were sure that this would be seen by no one – how I could tell all my + + —⁴⁴

Dec 12th How I dreamed last night – I was in the No 8 Kensington Crescent – & Mary Holt took me to see a beautiful plant – on the back balcony – I was avoiding W — – when to my horror I saw him standing with his arm round a girl’s waist – so exactly what I was when I first knew him – & in the exact spot where we last met – I screamed – & the girl looked up – & I then said to her what poor Miss H~ said to [76] me “Don’t believe him – he said the same to me once”! it was of no use – she put her head on his shoulder & I heard him say in that dearest, most bewitching voice – that none but he could have – “Annie, I never loved but you” – I awoke & I’m in Launceston Van Diemen’s Land – as M^{rs} Baxter –

17th I have been for two days at Allan Vale – tomorrow I spend at Elphin The C. G. has been deciphered – it was my intention it never should have been – what a fool I was to put it – altho’ I did & do mean it! D^r M^cIntosh is in V. D. Land again – wrote an answer to M^{rs} Hazard & M^r R Dry –

24th Tomorrow is Christmas-day – we dine at the Mess – J’ai passee deux heures bien agreeablement⁴⁵ – I’m only afraid I sing too much – & altho’ I feel, still I would not have it known – I had a very pleasant ride last evening with Miss Cox, M^r M^cIntosh & M^r R Dry –

25th Monday & Christmas-day – We were to have dined at the Mess – but at ½ past 6 o’clock – the [77] rain came down nicely – of course we were obliged to stay at home – Home! Did I say? how words are some times perverteted! Well! I never had; so miserable a Christmas Day – I.I.F.H. — B.M.N.A.C. (E.)⁴⁶ it was a sultry day – How well do I remember this day in England – I was with all my friends – who love me – who looked upon me as the soul of the family group – & so I was – For then I was happy –

But now! I’m separated from all those dear ones – & tied to a man who cares for me as much as I do for myself – God knows that is little – He is sometimes fond of me for a

⁴² It is my fault (Fr.)

⁴³ He has been very jealous – but it doesn’t matter – I detest him (French.)

⁴⁴ In hieroglyphic code AB writes “I feel what a neglected wife is sure to feel sooner or later.”

⁴⁵ I have passed two hours very pleasantly (French).

⁴⁶ Some of these letters are difficult to distinguish. The “E” in parenthesis denotes that abbreviations are in English.

day or so – (that is when I’m ill & he fancies I shall die before he gets my money –) No one can conceive what I’ve put up with at different times – from the liveliest girl – I’ve become the most [illegible word] woman & just turned 21 – a pleasant prospect for me – but I’ve determined on going home, if things don’t alter.

[78] And another occurrence too – which I said – never should take place – I.L.A.M.
(E.)

I yesterday had a note from dear M^{rs} Lyttleton – with my jet earrings [sic] – Today I went to see M^{rs} C. Friend – M^{rs} Allan & the girls were here – M^r Dry takes me to the Davies’ tomorrow – met Captain O’Hara & M^r Stapleton – Mon âme est bien triste – je ne sais quoi faire – Je ne pense qu’il saura comprendre le MBA sur le gout⁴⁷ – a truce to this nonsense – I’m married – I’m wretched – & there’s no hope of amendment – Dec 30th I went to see Maria on Thursday & returned on ~~Saturday~~ Friday – j’ai souffert! mais un peu agréablement – Il m’aime! et moi je l’adore! il ne faut pas qu’il le sache – c’est bien méchant – mais que peut-on faire? quand on aime⁴⁸ – G.N.P.P.A.F — e. (F.) Maria’s baby is grown a very nice child – how I should idolize a child if I loved the father –

31st New Year’s Eve – I hope next year may prove to me a happier one than the last –

AMB

Launceston

V. D. Land

[79] January 1st – 1838 – Monday – the first day of the year – How many I wonder shall I number in this “vale of tears” – with my present prospects, I should hope not many – I went the other day to see poor Bridget Moore – she is indeed an object of pity & misery – only 19 – & looks fully 30 – she is positively starved – & her poor little child – so pretty & cheerful – God knows what she will do with her next – which she expects in about 2 months – when I see such pitiable creatures, it is then I wish for wealth – it would be my greatest delight to satisfy the wants of the needy – but if I had it now, Baxter is too selfish to let it be used for any but himself –

⁴⁷ My soul is very sad – I know not what to do – I don’t think that he will understand the tone of the MBA (French).

⁴⁸ I have suffered! but a little pleasantly – he loves me! and I adore him! he must not be allowed to find out – it’s quite evil – but what can one do? when one loves (French).

Went with Miss Cox & Mary Dry out shopping – met M^r Connolly who wondered at my sighing – & I ought not either, for have I not obtained what I’ve so long wished for?

4th Yesterday we dined at Clare Ville – Baxter drove M^{rs} Landale’s carriage – & M^r R Dry drove me – had a very pleasant day –

[80] 5th Mess^{rs} Youl & Dry called this morning – it does me good to see his D. F. – /eng– Maria came into town on the 2nd & was here with M^r & M^{rs} T Davies – I have made her such a pretty bonnet – what pain I did suffer yesterday – I shall never be quite well again –

7th today went to hear M^r Lilley preach at the Kirk – afterwards went up to D^r Landale’s – Mess^{rs} M^cIntosh, Dry & Sinclair were there – Miss Dowling came in – ⁴⁹ Poor M^r Dry looks very unwell from his fall yesterday – Mon Dieu j’espère qu’il ne sera bien de tort – comme j’ai rêvé hier au soir – et comme j’ai pleuré⁵⁰ – & enough to make me – should my dream be correct –

On Wednesday Captain Tew intends giving a Pic-Nic at the first basin – and on the same day the mails of the Henry & Children close –

M^{rs} Wellman called today to know if I had heard anything of Major W— I could not wish her to know all that I do, respecting ce Monsieur – [74 81]⁵¹ finished the three first number of M^r Pickwick – I hope M^r R. Dry will feel well enough to come into town tomorrow – I shall then have three more – I shall walk out to Elphin tomorrow I think – M^r M^cIntosh talks of leaving this on Thursday. M^r & Miss Allan were in town yesterday – & Jessie the day before – I could all most fancy my present existence a dream – it’s too pleasing for reality – I think I’m going mad – writing such trash!

8th Poor M^r Dry has felt his fall from the gig very much – he was blooded – but drove out to Clarendon today – we thought Captⁿ Tew would have had a Pic-Nic tomorrow – but I fancy not now – the Friends were distressed today – my tin box is come home – so now, my journal – you & I will have plenty of secrets – I shall walk to the Basin tomorrow – what a relief it is to put your thoughts on paper! what an invention is writing!

⁴⁹ In hieroglyphic clode AB writes “Dear Richard looks so ill! God bless him.”

⁵⁰ My God, I hope that he won’t be hurt very much – as I dreamed yesterday evening – and how I cried (French).

⁵¹“71” has been crossed out with a pencil and corrected as “81.” The correction was not made by AB.

The Louisa Campbell is up the River with M^r & M^{rs} Welsh – I’m really glad – for the Allans were [82] so anxious for their arrival – does not interest claim a share in your joy M^{rs} Baxter?

“Yes! indeed every thing interesting does” – but that is not what the question means precisely! –

Conscience whispers “a dance on the 23rd!”

How much I wish for letters by her – the count is three –

I yesterday went to see poor Bridget again – & took some eggs etc – her little child I’m afraid is dying – I can almost imagine a mother’s feelings on the subject – she said when I told her that I hoped soon to see it better “It would be a blessing Ma’am for God to take it, as I feel I shall not live after my next confinement” – Good God! to imagine making up one’s mind to losing an only child – the first too – well, I blessed God that I had none, for oh! I could not part with it cheerfully – I never knew a Mother’s love! but ah! I’ve felt a Mother’s Curse – I think, most likely my distaste for children originates in self-admiration – yes! that’s the term – for it would be natural for the father to love his own [83] child – & in loving it, he would withdraw a part of his love for me! and I hate anything to come between me & my love! for how intensely I love! It is not with me, as with most women! it is a pure passion with me – I could live & love, by the side of the man I loved without feeling the least impure desire – People may laugh, but it is the fact – even as a school-girl it was – & I’m now disgusted with A.I.E. (E.)

9th Had letters from M^{rs} Reid & Eliza – the letter mentions my Uncle’s wedding may he be happy is my wish from my heart! – walked to the first Basin — — Baxter is at M^r Henty’s – ~~the Louisa~~

12th Today Baxter went out hunting – & M^r Youl called & wished me to go & see the girls at the Cornwall – When I went I found Mess^{rs} Connolly & Dry – the latter looks so very ill – while I was here Supple came up with M^r B Baxter – I immediately sent out for Baxter, but the gentleman was not to be found –

[84] Mr Baxter brought sad news with him – we may expect to be ordered away in a fortnight – ~~if only~~ Oh! it will seem only tomorrow to me! – How can I go away? & leave what I love better than all the world – it is only when we are about to leave – that we feel how much we truly love – [words under erasure]⁵² and my heart tells me I

⁵² Three lines of writing have been neatly crossed out.

wrong his dear dear nature! for he could not do anything ungenerous – I had a letter from M^{rs} Hazard – in which she astonishes me with the news of M^r Smith's wedding – He's an excellent creature & deserves a good wife – & I hope he will find her one – Mr Baxter says I'm much taller & thinner – and so I'm likely to remain – Gracious powers!

India in perspective – I'd go tho', & be happy, if I should see him there in about 18 months –

Maria Kemp is arrived in N. S. Wales – [85] I think I shall plunge into the very height of dissipation when I get to Sydney, that will finish me soon – what have I to live for? 1st a husband that loves himself better than me – & money better than all –

2nd India to broil me to death –

3rd For my new Aunt to laugh at, for having done me out of my money –

Pleasant things these to live for? –

14th Sunday So terribly warm – went to church – & afterwards spent a happy day at Elphin – God knows what I shall do with myself in Sydney – M^{rs} Hazard is my only friend there – & this town is like my second home – J'ai mis ses cheveux dans un coeur d'or – cher il règne dans le mien! – Je crois qu'il ne m'aime pas tant qu'il le faisait et la pensee me fait bien triste⁵³ –

Miss Dry has promised to spend the day with me tomorrow –

I do feel so miserable – I asked for No. 8 of the [86] Pickwick papers – & instead of offering to bring it – he looked for it & wished to find it – so it was no joke when he said he intended cutting me – No one shall do that tho' – I'll be the first – I'll not care for feeling on the occasion –

Jan 17th Sir John & Lady Franklin arrived on Monday last – dinners every day – left our cards –

I received a letter from Dear Harriette today dated 16th June – Captⁿ Tew called – M^{rs} Landale, Miss Dry, Ellen & M^r R Dry – likewise – went to see M^{rs} C. Friend & M^{rs} Weymouth –

18th Went for a delighted ride to Elphin – & after dinner there – M^r & Miss Dry accompanied us to the first basin – It looked well – but not half as well as it did the last time I went there – Baxter dined at Government Cottage today – & I had a chat with

⁵³ I have put some of his hair in a gold heart – dear he reigns in mine! – I think that he doesn't love me as much as he did before and the thought makes me very sad (French).

M^{rs} Wellman – Harriette tells me my Uncle has sent me out a Piano what a comfort it will be to me when I go to Sydney – for many a long day I shall have by myself there – [87] Je lui ai fait bien tout, en pensant qu’il ne m’aime pas – Je suis si jalouse, que je pense toujours⁵⁴ – I’ll not say what – for I’m a complete fool

How ill I feel today – I should have kept my bed but I thought the ride might bring him in sight – I’d no idea that Baxter would propose to go to Elphin – my most sanguine hopes did not lead me to that –

The Major very kindly offered me his quarters in Sydney – & said he would take care that if we were to go up in two detachments Baxter should go with the first – How kind! Heavens! when I dare think of going, how my heart aches – what would I not give to be allowed to stay quietly with those I love – No! it is not to be –

Oh! how happily two beings might be in this world if they loved – what need they care for the frowns of the world – Are they not the world to each other – and on dit that such couples do live – would that I were of the number – [88] William said rightly to me one day “dear Annie what-ever you love is allways unhappy” –

How people (the world) mistake me – they fancy me the merriest, happiest creature possible – I have indeed command over my feelings sometimes – but now I’m getting ill really low in body & mind – my side is so very bad – that I can’t allways be on my guard – tonight on hearing Mary Wellman play “Ah! Perdona!” my heart seemed bursting & I could not have helped crying if a multitude had been looking on –

19th Did not go out until the evening – when I rambled up Weight’s walk & sat down on the summit (or somewhat –) I have a wretched pain in my side – I don’t intend stirring tomorrow – have been writing to M^{rs} Hazard – I feel too blue to write any more tonight –

21st Jessie came up to church today – an immense number of persons at the English church – on account of his Excellency being there –

[89] D^r Browne gave a very good sermon – after church, Baxter went out to the Parsonage with a letter for Maria – in the evening Captⁿ Tew & M^r Dry called – went [for] a little walk –

22nd Baxter returned early this morning – I did not go out until the evening – when I ventured out as far as the Cataract walk – saw two boats filled with people on pleasure –

⁵⁴ I did good things for him, all the while thinking that he doesn’t love me – I am so jealous that I always think (French).

M^r Stapleton called this morning & sat for about two hours – a drole creature he most certainly is –

In the afternoon we had the honor of seeing a spring-cart pass with Lady & Miss Franklin – & Sir John & M^r Elliott rode behind –

Soon after they had passed Major Ryan & Captⁿ O'Hara called – the former to deliver into my especial care the person of Thos Ryan Esq^r J^r – which young man remains with me until the Major's return –

So that my trip to Norfolk Plains must [90] be laid on one side for a week or so – What dreadful pain I'm in yesterday & today –

On dit – that Captain Bremer is coming out as Governor to Port Phillip – I shall be very glad to see him again –

How much I enjoyed my walk this evening – I think Baxter intends going out to hunt tomorrow – M^r Connolly gave me his pretty little greyhound yesterday – but I'm afraid I shall not like her as well as Ada –

Spent last evening with M^{rs} Wellman How much I wish I knew when we were to leave this – one thing is I'll enjoy myself while I am here – “Life's short” – a vessel in from the Isle of France tonight –

23rd M^r Allan's wedding day – Baxter & M^r Dry came in this morning – & the latter kindly offered to drive me to N. Plains tomorrow – I'm an immense trouble to him I'm sure – I had wished to go to Allan Vale - but could'nt manage it – [91] called on M^{rs} Weymouth – who looked as pleasant as a very fat woman with eleven children can well be expected to look, this warm weather – I then proceeded to my little friend's – M^{rs} King is staying with her – & I should say she was a sensible woman – not pretty – but nice looking – wrote a note to M^{rs} Allan on the wedding day – Returned M^r C's two annuals –

Poor Bridget called for the bed – I wish I was on the top of W—'s Walk – with my usual company my dogs – well! I must go to bed – I hope I shall dream – but – I cannot very well make the same mistake I did last night – for I'm sole! – Gracious! what a joke – it might (if in reality) have been in earnest – 'twas but a dream! & a delicious one –

24th Baxter went out hunting last night – & this morning at 8 o'clock – M^r Dry called for me – we got out to N. Plains in good time – breakfasted & then Mess^{rs} Davies & Dry proceeded to M^r Wakefield's [92] where a sale was to take place – they returned & brought with them the gentleman that thinks me the most fascinating woman he ever

met – M^r Willmot – Poor fellow! I’m afraid he has never met with much fascination –
M^r & M^{rs} T Davies came in the evening – & M^r Dry remained all night –
25th Mess^{rs} Davies & Dry went into town at an early hour this morning – & they
returned at ½ past 5 – to dinner – M^r Dry brought me the news that we were to proceed
to Sydney immediately – well! if we are to go – why it’s all for the better that it should
be soon – for I don’t think I could put up with suspense much longer – when I begin to
imagine my parting from this Island – I almost feel inclined to alter my opinion – and
prefer suspense to the terrible reality –
26th Today Maria & I were surprised with a visit from Baxter – He remained all night
& left early on Sunday Morning – I had forgotten nearly to put down that not long after
M^r Dry had left yesterday evening – a man came to the door with a horse and letter – I
knew the poor old Ricken’s step & ran out directly – for some time I could not ask
where his rider was – [93] & of course one naturally ~~finds~~ takes⁵⁵ the worst view of an
accident – I said I was afraid M^r Dry was dying & had sent for M^r Davies – & Maria
could not open the note – M^r Davies would not wake – at last the note was opened &
then I hope the worst was known I made the bandages for the horse’s knees – & went
to see him –
27th Nothing particular – The Ricken went into town –
28th Sunday – I hope M^r Dry will execute my commission –
29th This morning we started for the Westward – M^r Davies drove us – we called &
dined at Hagley – both that farm and Belle Vue are beautiful – I would like very much
to live up there – or near – I’m afraid it is the neighbours that tempt me up there – for
really as to a spot to live in – I prefer the 1st Basin to any other – it is so endeared to me
lately from circumstances –
30th I [illegible word] to resume my journey – we left Hagley at about 4 o’clock &
went as far as M^r Martin’s – a very pretty place indeed – I found them kind, hospitable
people – M^{rs} Martin is good-looking a pretty side face – [94] the lower part so like
Mama’s – Miss Exton exceedingly plain – & sarcastic – M^r Martin – quite an English
farmer – and M^r Paulet very pleasant – only I caught him staring at me – to see if his
eyes did not deceive him – when he saw me – for he told M^{rs} Martin, before I came,
that he wished to see me, as he had heard me spoken of in several places – she did not
say – what he had heard of me – but I presume its no good – I don’t mind what people

⁵⁵ “Takes” has been added above the struck through “finds.”

think of me – I may be called a flirt – but I’m not – that I will talk & laugh with people there’s no doubt – but I’m more of a Coquette than an english flirt –

There is only one person I care about – & I know that one will not fancy any wrong in me – je braverai le monde tant pis⁵⁶ – but joking apart – do I not deserve that the world should talk? Yes – until lately, I had some strength of mind – but now when it is required – I find myself minus – on dit – if you wish to shun a danger – Fly! but now I’ll argue a little – I am a soldier – & it’s well known a soldier never should run from danger –

[95] 30th This morning after breakfast we went to M^r Foote’s at Deloraine – such a romantic place! – passed thro’ Westbury – it is a nice little village – M^{rs} Foote is rather good looking – but too boisterous to please me – M^{rs} Groome was staying there – She has a nice child (as a friend of mind would observe, “as children go”!) we did not remain there long – returned to M^r Martin’s & dined – M^{rs} Martin & I took a long walk – how I wished for other company – not that she is anything but agreeable – but the little creek looked so prettily inviting to sit down by & talk – poor woman! she was telling me M^r Martin’s plan of rearing sheep, or children, or some animal or another – & I had to continue saying “Yes” or “No” until my tongue ached with the exertion – Maria went to lie down – & Miss Exton had not shown herself at all – M^r Davies & M^r Paulet went to the “Arms of the Creek” on horseback – when we returned I copied music – & M^r Paulet bothered me so – that at last I kept on calling him M^r Dry – not that the shadow of a tint of resemblance is between them – I should be playing my friend a bad compliment [96] indeed – almost as bad an one as he paid me in saying I was not worth twopence!

31st We returned home this day – we first called at Hagley – where we found a letter from M^r Dry – we luncheoned – and then started for M^{rs} Ashburner’s – where we dined – we left Sillwood at 5 o’clock – and reached home at ½ past 7 – I was so glad to get back – for I have been in so much pain since I left – my side is so tender, I cannot bear my stays nearly to – it is only the commencement of my complaint – upon my word I dread the finish – yet why should I fear death? – until lately I’ve done nothing wrong, even in thought – I should not mind the agonies that always come with a cancer, if I had the person I love with me – but away – from that one – I shall feel dreadful impatience with pain –

⁵⁶ I will defy the world (French).

1st [February] Browning married M^r Noakes this morning – I hope she may not be a victim to connubiality – M^r Davies went into Launceston – Baxter came out to ask me if I wished to go into the Soiree tomorrow evening – there is only one inducement for me to do so – & I’ve not the smallest doubt [97] my friends will enjoy themselves as much without my company as with it – nous verrons –

I was indeed sorry to hear from Baxter that poor M^r Dry had suffered so much with his teeth – he seems to have such very fine ones – Maria has a shocking cold – & I have a slight touch of it – they expect the Archdeacon here tonight – I had hoped somebody else – might have come – How I wish it was with me as with others, out of sight, out of mind – but it’s quite the contrary – I think & dream of nothing else – last night I was in church & I saw a friend who in passing gave me a scornful look & said – “I treat you as I love you” – If that should ever be – I’ll not think of it – how horribly dull I feel tonight –

2nd This morning M^r Davies rode to M^{rs} Scarden’s – & before he returned two gentlemen arrived from town – M^r E.D.F. Hamilton & a M^r Bowen (or some such name) M^r Davies introduced me as his eldest daughter – I don’t hardly know what to think of the gentleman – [98] Something strikes me he is a sly Roué – its too bad to form such opinions of a person I have only seen once – but I flatter myself I can tell – I intend changing my room tonight – for I do nothing but dream in that large bed – things too pleasing for reality – M^{rs} W. Archer & M^{rs} M^cDonald called

3rd My cold is very bad today – I feel ill altogether – Baxter was to have come out this evening – M^r Hamilton went into Launceston just before dinner – M^{rs} Thos Archer & family returned home last evening – M^r Davies intends giving me a Pic-Nic before I leave this Island – I’ve been out here for 11 days – I must go into town again on Monday or Tuesday – I wonder if M^r Dry will come to church tomorrow – Yet why should he come here, when his own is so much nearer –

4th Baxter did not come until dinner time with M^r Davies from Perth – M^r Hamilton returned from town in the afternoon – we all went to church – called at M^{rs} T Davies –

5th Today His Excellency & family suite etc go to Woolmer’s – M^r Davies dines there – Maria, Mess^{rs} Hamilton & Baxter & I [99] all went over to the summer-house – I wrote to Elizabeth Youl yesterday evening – and Maria Kemp – we all returned home & at about ½ past 10 – commenced a brew of Egg-flip – while that was going on I retired to the seat amongst the Wattles – it was such a lovely night – M^r Davies did not return from Woolmers until nearly 12 –

6th This morning at 5 o'clock my spouse started for Launceston – very likely I shall go to Symmon's Plains – M^r Davies & his cousin went to M^r W. Archer's for plums – the latter is about a sketch of the Parsonage for me – Nothing like making idle people useful –

7th My own darling's birthday – God bless him – he is 25 today – What happiness it would afford me to be with him – No one ever loved me as he did & does – & I never did love any body as I do him – M^r Davies & M^r Hamilton went to the farm this morning and did not return until ½ past 8 – we waited dinner for him – Major Gray called this morning – M^r Davies says M^r R Dry told him Baxter would be [100] out tomorrow – it is my wedding day – we have been married 4 years tomorrow – it seems nearly 8 –

Maria & I went down to the township – we called to see poor M^{rs} Davies – she looks very poorly – we yesterday went to see M^{rs} Thos Archer – she asked me to go & see her before I left this Island – I'm afraid we shall be here too short a time – It is my wish to stay in town until nearly the last – Oh! how much I wish we were not going so soon – so very soon ! – Miss Langdon is coming here on Tuesday to say Goodbye – Horrible word! – I hate it – what a beautiful night it is – I shall go & take a strole presently – M^{rs} Ashburner was here this morning –

8th My wedding day – M^r & M^{rs} Reiby, Miss Moriarty, M^r & M^{rs} C. Arthur & two young Reiby's came to dinner – they returned soon – In the evening M^r Weston called – M^r Davies has a tremendous pain in – (I won't say where) from eating plums – We go into town at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning – [101] Had a letter from Elizabeth Youl – I intend going there on Wednesday –

9th This morning M^r Davies, M^r Hamilton and myself came into town – I found Baxter looking as cross as ever – after breakfast he asked me when I intended leaving town again – instead of saying he was glad to see me home – the time is that I find any house more home than my own – went up to see M^{rs} C. Friend –

11th Went to church – Nobody there – excepting in our pew – which was crowded with snobs – M^{rs} Friend spent the day with me –

Monday 12th M^r R Dry called this morning – He reminded me of showing him this journal – I'll not read it over for I'm sure I've put some shocking trash in it – and if I perused it in my cooler moments I might not like any body to see it – and a promise is sacred – what a nice pen I've been writing with – This evening M^r & M^{rs} Landale, M^r & Miss Dry & [102] I went for a ride – a very pretty race took place between Peter &

Dangerous – I won a pair of gloves on the former – Je pas si heureuse de le voir ce matin que je n’ai fin dire tous – que je voudrais – il viendra demain⁵⁷ – how I wish for that time – Baxter went to the Barracks – He has not spent one evening at home since I returned – c’est egal⁵⁸ – I’m better alone

13th ~~St Valentine’s Day~~ M^r R Dry called and brought me two dog collars – Baxter came in soon after and I don’t think I ever shall have another chat with him again – This evening we are going to Allan Vale to a quadrille – I could not refuse – I said I should be out of town – and M^{rs} Allan said well if you [are] in town – I cannot dance – my leg is too painful – and there are such a quantity of snobs to be there – Baxter is gone to M^r Henty’s with Postby and Blucher –

14th St Valentine’s day – went to Allan Vale & did not return until 6 o’clock this morning – very tired, altho’ [103] I only danced three quadrilles – none of my old partners were there – and somehow I don’t now fancy a dance without Miss Dry or Miss Youl – I went to bed – and was there – when Cupid called – I did not see him – Captain Buckly is rather a decent sort of person – But I’m too fond of drawing comparisons – & then the present sinks in the idea of the absent –

15th M^{rs} Friend & Margaret called and sat three hours with me – Cupid was here when they came He is to bring his sisters into town on Tuesday & I return with them on Wednesday –

16th Last evening I passed, as usual, alone – Baxter was on duty & I thought of course that when he left this, he had gone to the Barracks but this morning I found out he was on board the Louisa Campbell – he is becoming what he was before marriage – and what gentlemen call “a pleasant fellow” – smokes all day – drinks at night, & can sing as long as any of them – [104] He is gone out hunting with Captain Buckley – Poor Miss Allan has been ill – it seems she exerted herself too much the other evening – she burst a small blood vessel – I’m going with Margaret to the Burial-ground this evening –

M^{rs} Allan called in the afternoon and took me a short drive – she sat here some time – Captain Friend too – Margery & I went & looked at all the tombstone’s – I wish very much to plant an acacia over poor M^r Hatton’s grave – poor fellow! I almost envied him his quiet resting place – a winding sheet in the candle

⁵⁷ An approximate translation of this passage is: I not so happy to see him this morning that I have not [finished] said all I would like – he will come tomorrow (French).

⁵⁸ I don’t care, it’s all the same to me (French).

18th Went to church – and altho’ the church was crowded nobody was there – M^{rs} Badley left this world last even^g – We must all sooner or later pay the debt of nature – she will be and is much regretted – I love old age – especially when it is borne with cheerfulness – It gives me true pleasure to see a family on Christmas-day assembled with a venerable Grandfather & Grand-Mother in a fauteuil⁵⁹ – watching the gambols of their children’s children! – I call to mind dear [105] M^{rs} Douglas [&] Willan – what a merry circle we were then – dear ~~Douglas~~-William Douglas & I were allways the merriest too! He is dead and I am –

Major Ryan called in – Coming from church we met M^r R. Dry – he is quite tamed – it’s rather an improvement –

19th This morning the dust brought with it a fit of the blues – Margaret & I went to the Factory – M^r R. Dry called for a few minutes – M^{rs} Welsh called & made me promise to go down to Allan Vale – so – M^r Baxter being about all day – I’ll go for all night! –

20th Came out to Symmons Plains – with M^r Youl & daughter Jane. in the morning the former & M^r Dry called & sat for some time – we did not leave town until 5 o’clock – we met Mess^{rs} Connolly & Dry riding – M^r Cheyne called before I left – and Baxter and he went to the Race-Course –

21st I have written the wrong date to these two days – Today (20th) I returned from Allan Vale – but I must [106] state that we were about to start for town when Mess^{rs} J. Youl & R. Dry called to make the contributions for the Ladies’ Purse – ~~in~~ when I arrived, I found M^r & M^{rs} C. Friend at home – they spent the day with me – in the evening I went to see Bridget – I met two friends who made a great increase to poor M^{rs} Moore’s purse – she was really delighted with her stock – I am to shop for her tomorrow before I leave town – it was my wish to stay all night with her – but she said no – Oh! I never shall arrive at the first Basin again, without interruption – How I love that spot –

22nd On coming out here last evening we found M^{rs} J. Cox – M^r Cox arrived soon after –

23rd This evening M^r Hockey came – he is a strange genius – he amused us very much talking of horses – He sings nicely –

24th The Gentlemen started for the sale at M^r E. Bryant’s – all but M^r Fisher – who arrived to breakfast this morning – M^r Cox from Clarendon called this morning –

⁵⁹ Armchair (French).

25th M^r Fisher & M^r J Cox went before breakfast this morning – [107] we went “splorifying,”⁶⁰ and took a walk by the banks of the river – to the garden – coming back we met M^r John Cox – I rode his horse home – M^r J. Youl & the other gentleman went to the sale – M^r R. Dry was expected out here yesterday – but did not come – I hope another fall from his horse did not prevent his arrival – I suppose Baxter will be out today – I don’t feel in good spirits yesterday or today – at last I have my Italian dictionary –

My daughter Jane was accusing me of taking away the young Ladies beaux – I’m sure I don’t mean to do it – I don’t care for their beaux –

26th M^r J. Cox & M^r Youl went to the sale – M^r Youl returned rather late with M^r R. Dry – M^{rs} J. Cox went home –

27th Sunday – Went to church at Perth – M^{rs} & Miss Langdon were there – after dinner we went to the garden – M^r Dry went into town soon after – M^r Cheyne called in the evening –

28th Today M^r Youl & I went to the Macquarie – I rode Tally-ho – [108] Going into town on tomorrow –

29th Came into town this morning – met Mess^{rs} Cheine Dry & Winter – the former very kindly drove down for me to go to the Races – it was a miserable rainy day – poor Adelaide lost, owing I understand to her lameness – I’m indeed sorry for it –

March 1st Today I went to see M^{rs} C. Friend – while I was away Mess^{rs} Cheine, Youl & Dry called – the former called for me again – M^r R. Dry rode today – the races were well attended & it was a pleasant day – Baxter dined at D^r Landale’s and I spent the evening with M^{rs} Landale, who has not been able to leave her room for some days, owing to indisposition – I returned early – Baxter went on board the Louisa Campbell – & did not come home until ½ past 3 –

2nd M^r Cheine took me to the Races again – but I must not forget to mention that both the Misses Dry were with me – a fine day & some very good races – M^r R Dry called this morning – the Race Ball takes place tonight – I should so much like to have gone, [109] but my Master would not let me – and as he is snoring in bed!– perhaps I’m as well at home – miserable by myself – M^r Allan came & wished me to go with them – and M^r Youl too – but it was no use – I walked down to M^{rs} C Friend’s – sat with her for some time – and returned home by moonlight – How I do daily thank God I’ve no

⁶⁰ An extension of verb “splore” which the OED defines as a word of Scottish origin meaning to revel, riot or make a commotion.

children – nothing to claim my affection – I’m in my old low spirits now – & I really think I’m the happier – tomorrow I’ll go to the 1st Basin – I wish I knew when I shall get William’s letter about my going to Canada – I’m wretched here & yet I should be worse to go home – my Uncle married! and I’m so altered – How I would like to defy the world & do that which my inmost wishes dictate – No! it would be improper in the world’s eyes & I must go on miserably to the end of the chapter – It is so repulsive to a woman with any feeling to put up with what I do – yet nobody shall know it – I called on M^{rs} Wellman today – [110] what a fright I got tonight with a sailor – the monster – it served me right tho’ –

3rd M^r R. Dry called this morning – I went out to purchase gloves for my bets – met M^r Hazlewood who accompanied me – called on M^{rs} Wellman & M^{rs} C. Friend –

4th Went to church – when I returned Margaret & M^r R Davies called – after they were gone, I went round to see the Countess & M^{rs} C Friend – M^r Davies dined here & intends sleeping tonight – still I feel so melancholy – I am to ride tomorrow with Miss Dry – the “Adonis” was at church – but I don’t think him as good looking as his neighbour was – tastes differ –

7th Colonel Hope is to be here tomorrow – on the day before yesterday poor M^{rs} Ashburner died – what a dreadful loss she [word under erasure] will be to her family – 11 young children left without a Mother!

8th This morning Colonel Hope reviewed our horse before my house – M^{rs} Wellman came down to see them – Mess^{rs} McIntosh & R. Dry were here too – [111] In the evening I went for a ride with Miss Dry – Baxter dined at the Mess – I spent the evening with M^{rs} Wellman – how exquisitely she does play – wrote to dear Harry today – last eveng I rode out to Elphin with the Major & stayed there – rode home by Moonlight – How I love the moon! Delightful hour – I cannot conceive any person cross by moonlight – it was made for love & happiness – we more often see love coupled with misery – I think –

9th M^r R. Dry called this morning and brought me Byron – I went to see M^{rs} C. Friend – and in the evening I took six of my dogs to the 1st Basin – remained there some time – I really should have gone to see poor Bridget – but I was so very tired – Baxter is dining at M^r Cheyne’s – tomorrow I believe he intends going out to hunt – he found such a pretty little seal yesterday in M^r Griffith’s yard – Motto “Come — do” – M^r & M^{rs} Welsh called this morning – I don’t feel very well – I should wonder if I did – [112] Began a letter to M^{rs} Reid – I don’t exactly know when I shall finish it – the

Misses Archer are to be married on Tuesday next – the Cricket match does not take place until Saturday – so we shall not go out to Symmon’s Plains – I believe it is nearly sure that we shall go to the Cape instead of India –

I care very little which it is – called in at M^{rs} C. Henty’s to see the little boy of M^{rs} J.

Henty’s – I will ask Miss Dry to ride with me tomorrow evening –

How dull I feel – I’ll put out the lights – lie on my sofa & think! Yes! thought is my delight – no one can interrupt my thoughts – what after all is the benefit I receive from thinking? Misery

10th I dreamed last night with various other things that one of my back teeth fell out – a bad sign they say – Baxter is gone out hunting and my little Ada is gone too – for the 1st time – in the afternoon Mess^{rs} Dry & McIntosh called – M^r Dry drove me to Elphin while M^r McIntosh went to see Major “Vent- forth” – [113] I saw a cloud on a young lady’s brow when I got there – no wonder – she loves M^r D – and thinks it criminal in him to pay the least attention to any one else – The Allans came into town & called going out – poor Isabella looks very ill – she will be a corpse instead of a bride if they don’t take care of her –

Reading “Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage” again – and it seems quite new – one may read a good work over and over again and not feel the least tired of it – I almost wish I were a witch to decipher some notes – How much I would like to be clever – what pride we take in looking well externally – how much more admirable is inward perfection! But I’ve no person who takes delight in reading near me – and I cannot do any-thing solus – altho’ I delight in solitude – How ready we allways are to find an excuse – The ~~pigeon~~ pigeon match took place today – Tomorrow the cricket-match at Symmon’s Plains – [114] Margery called today –

11th This morning I got 3 Nos of Pickwick – and a knife given me for my nails – I went to M^{rs} C. Friend’s – M^r Dry & Margaret were there – and Janet came in soon after – Jessie & I came home together – she staid all the day with me – Baxter did not return from hunting until 5 o’clock – “All round my hat”, called – We went to the Bridge with Jessie –

12th Went to church altho’ I felt ill – walked back with Miss Dry – I’m so much afraid of my old complaint coming again – I expect Baxter is going to George’s River for a fortnight – and I intend going part of the time to Allan Vale – finished my letters to Harry & M^{rs} Reid – I wonder if ever I shall go where those letters are going – why should I wish to – I should not be happy there – Of course I need not expect any money

from my Uncle now – as most likely he will have children of his own to leave it to – Thank God I’ve no child at present – How unhappy it would make me to think of leaving it to an [115] Uncle or Aunt to take charge of – and then, if that relation choose to marry my poor child might take care of itself – people don’t think of these things when they bring little helpless creatures into the world of misery – I call it wicked – saying Providence will take care of them! – and leaving them to starve –

13th This day year we set out for our delightful trip to Ben Lomond – today M^{rs} Landale gave a very pleasant Pic-Nic to the 1st Basin – what a sweet spot it is!

16th Today we went out to M^r Sinclair’s to dine – M^{rs} Freeman was there – so much altered! I could not think any person would change so very much in so short a time – I rode M^{rs} Landale’s grey out – M^r & M^{rs} C. Friend passed the after part of the day with me – in the morning we went down to M^{rs} Thos Henty’s – what a dear old couple they are! called at Allan Vale coming back – ~~on the day~~ yesterday –

[116] 17th St Patrick’s day – M^r R. Dry called with my earrings – Comme je voudrais qu’il fut toujours auprès le moi! je ne suis jamais heureuse quand il n’est pas⁶¹ – an extraordinary thing it is my being so glad when the week is at an end – when I think and know that it is one nearer to my leaving this town – Ah! how well I can remember why? I am once more reading Byron’s poems –

18th Went to church – Baxter did not leave his room until my return – and then went down to Allan Vale with M^r R Davies – M^r Hamilton sent me a pretty sketch of the Parsonage and the 1st Basin – How often when I’m away from this shall I look at the latter place and – think of all that that spot recalls to my mind – The Misses Archer were married last Tuesday –

20th Baxter is just gone out hunting – Nobody has called today – Yesterday I saw Miss Dry and Miss Youl – M^r R Dry met us at the corner of the street – He is looking very ill – Miss Weymouth came to dinner – [117] I went to see Bridget – and Baxter went too – called on M^{rs} Welsh –

21st Baxter went out hunting – and I took some little baby clothes to poor Bridget –

23rd M^r Dry called & gave me the reins – which I shall value par consequent – I went as far as Dowling’s – and met my spouse with M^r Youl & some other monsieur – in the afternoon they called & sat for rather more than two hours – Je n’aime pas que toutes personnes y restent si longtemps – et ce villain homme a pris le place – sur la canopé –

⁶¹ How I would like him to be always near me! I am never happy when he is not (French).

que j'ai rêvé [qu'] il a si bien rempli! le bonheur que j'ai eu ce matin – personne ne saurait – mais quand la pensée vient – que nous partirons de ce lieu! – Dieu! que ferais-je? Il ne sera jamais aimé plus qu'il l'est⁶² – but others may show it – & I'm obliged to disguise my feelings – Je ne marierais jamais encore – [meme] si j'étais Venus – jamais – car je n'aimerai [118] pas encore⁶³ – Baxter dined at M^r Connolly's – Margaret is going to spend the day with me tomorrow – I've lost the chance of sending dear Harry's letter – Today I wrote to M^{rs} Hazard – and shall send her some apples on Tuesday – per William – M^r C. Friend called the day before yesterday – M^{rs} F. likes the farm – poor souls! I'm glad of it indeed – I saw M^r Talbot today – he asked me to go with him to Hobart – and promised to take great care of me – I could sit writing all night – but I'll go to bed and dream I hope –

24th Margaret came and wished to go and shop – it was so very warm – however I went with her and was glad for it afterwards Je l' ai on deux fois – Il a l'air bien malade⁶⁴ – Baxter went out fishing this morning and we promised to meet him at 5 o'clock at the basin – we mounted the Cataract hill as far as M^r Dalrymple's – but my legs failed [119] me & I got one of [the] young Neville's to take the Basket and we returned home – Margaret was obliged to go up to M^{rs} Simpson's – and the consequence of my going out in the sun is that I must go to bed – my unfortunate stomach in as much pain as ever –

Sunday – 25th I felt too ill to leave my bed this morning until 1 o'clock – Baxter started for Mowen to see M^r Wales – what strange ideas we take into our heads – hier j'ai pensee qu'il avait l'air froid – and immediately a cause presented itself to my fertile imagination – J'ai rêvé qu'il fut marié! – pas a moi comme l'autre soir - J'oublie qui était la mariée⁶⁵ – I'm trying to draw the sketch in the Corsair – it's so long since I attempted such a thing that I'm in fear as to my succeeding –

It has been very showery today – I suppose [120] the weather will change soon!

Thursday – 28th M^r R Dry called this morning – Baxter was on the Jury today – it is possible that we may go to England – Il m'a promis aujourd'hui qu'il fera prendre son

⁶² I don't like people to stay a long time – and this evil man took the spot – on the canopy – that I dreamt he [Mr Dry?] filled so well! the happiness I felt this morning – nobody could tell – but when the thought comes that we will leave this place! – God! What would [will] I do? He will never be loved more than he is now (French).

⁶³ I will never marry again – [even] if I were Venus – never – because I will never love again (French).

⁶⁴ I saw him twice – He looks very ill (French).

⁶⁵ Yesterday I thought he had a cold manner ... I dreamt he was married! not to me as the other evening – I forget who was the bride (French).

portrait – Je l’aime beaucoup de trop⁶⁶ – In the afternoon we went for a ride to Elphin – M^r R Dry rode with us for a short distance on the Patterson’s Plains road – on Saturday Miss Dry will go for a ride – and I’m to try Peter – dear little fellow! I wish He was mine – Son maître aussi⁶⁷ – spent the evening with M^{rs} Wellman –

29th Walked with Baxter as far as the Magazine – he went to fish & I to see poor M^{rs} Moore – Miss Welsh and Jessie called – and tomorrow morning I’m to take a walk at 6 o’clock –

30th This morning I was at my post at 6 o’clock – Jessie came a little afterwards and we went as far as the cottage past Elphin – when I came home I was quite poorly for some time, and [121] could not leave the sofa – it was rather too much for me – but I do enjoy a nice strole – We have both written to my Uncle by the Attic to sail in the beginning of April – Baxter is just gone out to fish – I feel quite stupid and cannot do anything but lounge – in the afternoon M^r R Dry called – while he was here, M^r M^{rs} & Miss Welsh came in and Jessie – it strikes me sometime s that this latter young lady and M^r D are in earnest and not flirting!– in the evening we went for a ride – and I tried Peter – he trots so nicely, and cantered once very pleasantly – Baxter returned soon after I did –

1st of April – M^r Smith’s birthday – went to church at the Scotch one – came home with the Allan’s soon after M^r Connolly and his promising son called – they are going to shoot at Belle Vue – by the bye, it is M^{rs} Clarke, I see beckoning every day to M^r O’H – we are becoming quite continental in this city – I can keep a secret – so they need not fear me!– [122] I am reading the sixth vol. of Byron – called for Jessie – to go to church with me – sent letters per Attic to My Uncle, M^{rs} Reid, William, and Harriette – 3rd M^{rs} and Miss Allan called this morning – today the Cricket match takes place at Perth – M^r Dry called to ask me if I would ride out? I consented – as he said Jessie could not go if I did not – and he seemed anxious for her to go – M^r Cheine called in the afternoon – upon my word, he is a nice creature – If I had only known he was at home, I would have sent to ask him to drive me out –

4th This morning Baxter was to have started – but he will not be able now, I believe at all – I feel very poorly this morning – He went out fishing at about 1 o’clock – at ½ past 4, M^r Sinclair and M^r Airy came down to ride with Jessie and myself– we went – but before starting, I must observe, M^r Edward Willis called – (for the 2nd time today) –

⁶⁶ Today he promised me that he will have his portrait taken – I would like it a lot (French).

⁶⁷ His master also (French).

I got on my horse, and we went up for Jessie – we sat there for a few minutes and then we had a very pleasant [123] ride – returned about 7 – M^r Airy, very politely came down for me to go to M^{rs} Welsh's – I walked up with him – Passed a pleasant evening – Captⁿ Tew came in – in the cool – I never in the whole course of my life, remember as much as I did tonight – I felt cross – annoyed – etc – about the seat in the gig – surely M^r Dry need not have come down at all to me, when he knew he would not drive me out – it seems that Jessie was to have gone with M^{rs} Landale and Miss Youl in the gig with M^r Dry – eh! bien – je ne l'oublierai jamais⁶⁸ –

6th This morning Jessie and I took our walk as usual, but recollecting that a Court Martial took place at 8 – We got into a cart to come home – Baxter was gone when I returned – I called on M^{rs} T. Archer – & she asked me to make some calls with her – we went & just returning home when Mr Dry drove across the square & so I got up behind & went for a drive – He did ⁶⁹ [124] not think that I observed him and Miss Youl laugh whenever he jolted us behind – I'll not trouble the gentleman with my company again – I don't need a second hint! – and that's the reason I would not go to Elphin – much as I should have liked to see Miss Dry – All day has this beautiful verse of Byron's been haunting me –

There is many a pang to pursue me:

They may crush but they [words under erasure] shall not condemn,⁷⁰

They may torture – but cannot subdue me –

'Tis of thee that I think – not of them!

M^r E. Willis called to ask me to go for a ride – but I could not, as Baxter wished me not – and I know what would afterwards come upon me! M^r Dry & Jessie came down on horseback – and M^r Dry kindly offered Baxter his horse – because if I went, he would not – of course this was the reason, for when he found I was not going, nothing prevented him – what a pleasant evening I had – God bless me! I think Baxter takes the right means to make [125] me love him – he's so very kind!!

8 o'clock striking! I'm off to bed – nothing now for me left – even my dreams must be altered!

8th Jessie & I went to church – M^r Airey & M^r Sinclair returned home with us – My better half started this morning for George's River – We learned last night, that a

⁶⁸ Oh! well – I'll never forget it (French).

⁶⁹ A page of the journal has been torn out. Pen markings on the remnants of the removed page suggest it was written on and then torn out.

⁷⁰ "Shall not condemn" is inserted as superscript above crossed out words.

revolution in Canada had taken place – How I hope my own dear brother will escape any hurt – he’s allways in the wars poor fellow! domestic and foreign – Major Turner came into town yesterday – M^{rs} Winter was at church, looking very pretty – & interesting of course, as a bride – I’ll try and go for a ride tomorrow –

9th Today I spent the morning at M^{rs} Welsh’s – when I returned home, M^r & M^{rs} Freeman came to see me – & M^r Airey – Hearing that Maria was in town, I walked up to see her – but the bird had flown – In the evening I went to see Bridget – and had my fortune told! – [126] returning I met M^{rs} Barnes – she asked me to go there this evening – I returned home again, and M^r Allan drove me up to the Cornwall – We all proceeded to M^{rs} Barnes’ in Maria’s carriage – M^r C. Friend and M^r Davies saw me home – & the former slept here –

10th This morning M^r C. Friend & I went for a walk – returning we met M^r Sinclair – and we promised to go out to Clairville on Thursday provided Miss Dry’s party accompanied us – I went with Maria to Elphin – met the Mess^{rs} Dry coming into town –

11th M^r R. Dry called – Maria went with me to M^{rs} James Henty’s – and M^{rs} J. Reiby’s – M^{rs} Wellman and I called on M^{rs} Wentworth – I admire her manner and appearance very much – Miss Cookney seems to me rather pretty –

Miss Capon was married yesterday – I spent the evening at M^{rs} Wellman’s –

[127] 12th We were prevented going out to Clair Ville from various reasons – one prominent one was – M^{rs} Welsh gave to her lord and master a son – Upon my word people take it as easy having children as going to their breakfast – They are welcome to their innocent mirth!

M^{rs} Barnes from Hobart came to sit with me for a short time – I was to have dined there, but I don’t like eating before strangers – Jessie called and I walked as far as the Cornwall with her –

13th Good Friday – had a delightful strole this morning – tomorrow I’m going to Allan Vale – I had intended going to church this morning – but was prevented –

B.D.S.W.M.A.L.I – H.H.I.W. – M^r Sinclair Major and M^{rs} Wentworth & Miss Cookney called – M^{rs} Wellman likewise – I walked home with her – and met M^r Airey by the Cornwall – [128] what a melancholy accident has occurred to his cousin – poor young man! M^{rs} W drank coffee with me – Major Ryan called “en passant” – If all my days were passed as this – time would be too short – I was happy – next Saturday the

cricket match takes place between the married and single gentlemen – I shall come up for it –

14th Today I went for a ride with Captain Hume on M^{rs} Welsh's little filly – and I tried Captⁿ Hume's – I came to Allan Vale in the evening –

15th Captⁿ & M^{rs} Miller came down with M^r Welsh – she is rather nice looking – I've been reading some of my themes – they recall pleasant & unpleasant occurrences – How often when I'm far far away, shall I think of this country with feelings of the warmest nature – and think how gradually those feelings have taken possession of my heart – when I left England I fully made up my mind never to like any person œ out of it – [129] but I shall leave this with more regrets than even my own native land – with a constitution and prospects blighted!

17th Today M^{rs} Allan went into town – and Miss Allan & I had a visit from Capt^{ns} Tew & Hume – the former left soon – the latter remained all night – he is very pleasant indeed –

18th M^r Baker & Captⁿ Hume started after breakfast – I had a little canter [on] the filly with M^r Baker's saddle – & Captⁿ Hume as companion – a Gentleman promised to come & see me today but – the fascinations of Launceston seem to have prevented him – N'importe – comme il plaira⁷¹ – it has been very wet all day – but I hope the rain will not continue long enough to spoil the cricket match on Saturday –

20th A rainy day – yesterday I went with M^r Allan to Glanville – riding the little filly – Tomorrow morning I go into town – The William coming up the river – I shall have some [130] letters from England by her – I hope they may contain some good news – M^{rs} Allan remained in town tonight –

21st Today M^r J Allan arrived & after breakfast drove me into town – I went to the cricket match on Captⁿ Hume's horse – with Jessie Cap^t H and M^r J Allan – in the evening drank tea at M^{rs} Welsh's –

22nd Did not go to church on account of the rain – in the morning – in the evening I accompanied Captⁿ Miller & his wife and Jessie to church –

23rd This morning M^r Dry & I were sitting very quietly chatting when M^r Baxter returned – M^r R. Davies dined with us – he went with me to see M^{rs} Welsh –

25th Spent the evening at M^{rs} Welsh's –

⁷¹ It doesn't matter – as you please – (French).

26th This morning Janet & I tried to walk but found it too cold – M^r Dry & D^r Richardson called for a second – Jessie & I went out, and [131] met Miss Margery – she vanished into some shop however upon our meeting M^r C. Willis – (who by the bye is looking uncommonly well! Delightful creature!) he walked with us to the Cornwall then to the Commandant's – we proceeded to M^{rs} Little's and Briggs – at the latter place M^r Airey and M^r Talbot came in to see us – the younger asked me for my rose – now, altho' he is decidedly agreeable – still – when we consider the language of flowers, a rose is not the one I should give to him – so I told him – he showed me a note! – capital joke! I'll see that again –

I set out for N. Plains at 3 o'clock with Maria – we met D^r Richardson & M^r Dry very near the turn off – we were so tired – that we went to bed at about 8 o'clock –

27th Rained all day – Baxter & M^r Davies [132] went to M^r Anderson's –

29th Heard two good sermons today – rather uncommon – yesterday a large mail from England – Maria had a very long letter from M^r Lyttleton – I do hope there are some for me – but I'm almost tired of hoping – I've no hope –

30th Baxter went into town immediately after breakfast – we went to M^r Willmot's and then to Woolmers – Last night we were disturbed by a noise at the door – Upon my word – I was frightened for a second, when I remembered that there were no fire arms in the house.

1st of May M^{rs} Thos Archer called & Maria went with her to the township – I preferred walking amongst the Wattles – Captⁿ & M^{rs} Smith were here when I returned – what fine eyes this lady has! – such piercers!! in the evening I had some English letters and one from M^r Smith and Jessie – [133] Mama mentions several curious affairs – but the one that grieved me was Harriette's having met J.H — poor dear soul! how she must have felt! – I can imagine – she loved him so much – and altho' she is now the mother of two children – yet if she still retain her soul – she must feel – and Mama to speak so coldly on the subject – she! the person who used all every means to prevent their union –

I know Harriett's fine – excellent principles – and her extreme pride – so that she will never sacrifice herself, altho' she is sacrificed! –

I may be unjust – for W. loves her – but when I picture to myself my lovely (in more than person) sister – abused as she has been! I wish – oh! I hardly know what – Georgy Hutchinson too – the monkey! marrying a man – to live for two years on [134] love! poor soul! – I pity her blindness – I hope Mama will marry Captain Froggart – if she

wishes it – I ca’nt imagine a person marrying so many times “mai chacun a son goût” – I know there is only one person I would marry – if I were single again – and I doubt if he would give me the chance – M^r Horton does not forget me – he is a very gentlemanly young man – mais — — c’est tout⁷² – with plenty of money –
3rd We yesterday went with M^{rs} Archer to Cressy to call on M^{rs} Toosey – She is rather a plain woman of about 40 – too “at home” to be elite! – I saw the deer – and the greyhound – why it is not nearly as pretty as Ada – I have written to M^r Briggs – and asked Margaret to take the letter for me – I hope somebody may come from town today – I don’t care who! – but I want to hear the news –

[135] 4th After wishing yesterday for anybody, somebody came –in the persons of D^r Richardson & M^r R Dry – they dined here and left soon after – we did not leave the house today for I was manufacturing a black bonnet for Maria – I hope to be in town on Saturday –

I forgot to mention Major M^cLeod’s death – poor old gentleman!– he died very suddenly and in Sydney – Margaret will feel his death more than any of them – she was his favourite – This death may be the means of making me happier than I am at present – for Marion now, may claim from pity what I never did from love!– nous verrons –

So, Baxter has sent Fly to Clarendon – poor little pet – I am very fond of her – it’s a monstrous good thing he did not attempt changing Ada – for I never would have forgiven him – [136] B. D. D. L S J H Y – I C H K N N A N M H. –

6th Today Maria came with me to Symmon’s Plains – Miss Youl was as kind as ever to me – so that I shall persist in disbelieving any thing they may say of her

7th Today M^r R. Dry kindly drove me into town – D^r Seccombe called in the evening to see me –

8th Miss Dry & Miss Cox called – poor Margaret was here – and Jessie –

13th Five days have elapsed without my coming to my Journal – I have been very ill – they wished me to remain in bed – but I would not – thinking that I might see some persons to cheer me – Heaven knows how much I need it! – I am so cross & ill-tempered – but I do suffer so much – yesterday M^r R Dry & M^r Youl called to see me – the latter remained a long time – but I soon tired the former –

⁷² But — — it is all (French).

[137] My little Ada has been my principal companion – Dear Jessie has also been much with me – she is a kind soul –

14th Yesterday was a miserable day – so very wet – I had wished to hear the Bishop preach but could not venture out –

Today I went to see M^{rs} Wellman & M^{rs} Welsh, stayed some time at the latter's house – she has a delightful Piano – upon my return I found M^{rs} Weymouth & M^r R Davies here –

Soon after M^r Frankland came in and sat for a long time – he is certainly what I said before the most delightful person I ever met – what a pity he is married to such an old-lady –

Whilst at M^{rs} Welsh's – M^r R Dry & Mary passed – Baxter tells me that Captⁿ Tew upon his arrival in Sydney, intends applying for leave to return home – and that he said he would be glad to chaperon me home – [138] such an offer I shall not refuse – it will be the time to show whether I really love or only pretend – of course I had a struggle but when I put self on one side – I see what duty tells me! – and I will act up to it – I'm only afraid the slightest excuse will make me waver –

16th This morning Miss Janet came down and asked us to go up to M^{rs} Welsh's this evening – I walked up with Jessie – and shortly after M^r Baxter came in – in the course of the evening M^r Blackney – Major Ryan and M^r Campbell came – I don't much admire this latter person – he seems to me a strange mixture of the boy, and a very impudent man – however I'll not judge too harshly but say that "he had just left the Messroom – We remained rather late – and I already feel the worse for waltzing with Jessie +

17th Last night poor Mary met with a sad [139] accident in the way of scalding both her feet very much – so I'm Betty for a time – and a worse time it could not have happened –

Baxter left this at 10 o'clock with M^r Grant to go hunting – in the afternoon M^r E Willis came and sat some time – I was so glad – for I had been crying my eyes out – and he mended my spirit a little – I am a miserable sinner – Yes! what would have given me pain some weeks ago – will now almost give me pleasure – viz: my removal from this – and yet what can I, shall I do away from that spot – On dit que'ce n'est que le premier pas qui coûte– I deny this – Ah! no one can half conceive the horrors of an unhappy marriage – but those who experience it – daily – hourly – do I send up the most impious wishes – and the Being who hears [140] them – why when I think a little

– even He cannot have a worse opinion of me than I have of myself – if I had but some one who loved me – to be with me allways – to tell me of my faults – But no! it has been my bad luck in life to meet with too much adulation – and when I’ve listened – and do listen to it – altho’ I detest the persons who make use of it – still nature is so very very weak – that I sometimes catch myself thinking “Can all of this be flattery”? –

William – my own beloved brother! – it has been the magic of your dear image that has preserved me from even worse than I have already done – when I think of you – I know that one loves me – and no one knows how sincerely it is returned – I promised to go up to M^{rs} Welsh’s this eveng – but I am so truly wretched – that I’ll stay alone –

[141] 20th This morning being rather better M^r Baker drove me to church – it was almost too much for when I got there I was in agony – M^r Blackney called – but unfortunately we did not see him – the Major called to say Adieu – poor old fellow I’m sorry he is going to leave us – well! now Baxter is up at the Mess, I’ll go & parboil myself & then retire –

21st Rather cloudy – notwithstanding which Baxter took out the dogs for a run – Jessie & I went to some shops – we met M^r R Dry & he returned home with me – first, calling at M^{rs} Welsh’s –

22nd I did not feel quite well enough to dine at M^{rs} Barnes’ today – so I let Baxter go there by himself – and I went up for a quiet chat at M^{rs} Welsh’s –

24th Her Majesty’s birthday – 19 today – poor girl! – We yesterday called on M^{rs}

[142] Wentworth – M^{rs} J Henty, M^{rs} Landale & M^{rs} Welsh’s – M^r Blackney was here

25th Baxter went out hunting this morning – M^r Sinclair – Miss Allan & Jessie called – the latter & I went round to see the cottage – M^r R Dry drove me up to M^{rs} Moore’s – Yesterday D^r & M^{rs} Salmon called early in the morning – in the evening I crawled up to M^{rs} Welsh’s – found Mess^{rs} Franks, Frazer, Gray, Burt, Leigh and Major Cartwright – I played quadrilles for them – but it made me quite wretched hearing the music only –

26th M^r R Dry called – he is going to Hobart Town – and Jessie is going home this evening – What shall I do with myself for three long weeks – Miss Allan is to be married on the 5th of June – finished the Last days of Pompeii – M^{rs} Priaulx brought herself and 9 youngsters to see me –

[143] 27th M^r R Dry gave me some very nice books today – which I shall indeed value – He starts tomorrow –

29th One day passed – –

30th This morning I have a note from Jessie – and such a row ensued [sic] – from today we live in a manner ~~single~~ – and I shall go home as soon as possible – Maria & M^r Davies called in the afternoon –

Reading “Don Juan” – I must say I’ve read as bad – but never worse – but then Byron never expected Ladies would read it –

31st M^{rs} Landale & Miss Dry called –

June 1st This day 16 years Papa died and 17 years Grandpapa Hadden – I had the blues very badly – so I walked out to D^r Weymouth’s – I then called to see that unfortunate woman M^{rs} Turner – surely it’s an awful thing to see so young a [144] woman giving way to drink, in the way she is – I hope she’ll take the advice I gave her to eat more!–

From there I went and sat with a poor man who is bed-ridden – then to M^{rs} M^cK’s – found out where M^r Gervis lived – I must go and see about sending his little ones to school – on my return home met M^{rs} & Miss Welsh – M^{rs} Miller, Miss Allan, Captⁿ

Hume, and M^r Frazer – If there is not a smite between two of this party – I’m no judge!– M^r Grant dined with us, and we all went up to M^{rs} Welsh’s in the evening

I played all the quadrilles for them – and did not dance – I felt too wretched – and yet I heard two persons say what an animated, lively woman M^{rs} Baxter was – and let them think so –

4th Went again to see poor Graham – brought some work away for her – [145]

what an example she sets to us married ones! three years has she had to attend to her husband like an infant – and yet she is so cheerful – called to see M^{rs} Moore, M^{rs} C – and two other places –

I suppose some persons would call it quite improper my going by myself to such places – but I could find few I fancy who would like to accompany me – Mary Fleming asked me about a situation –

6th M^r Youl sat some time here today – He told me the hounds met in Hobart on Friday – it’s a bad day – how I hope no accident will happen –

9th I’m waiting for the carriage to take me to the wedding at Allan Vale – Miss Allan little knows what a responsible state it is she is entering upon – None but those who have tried it, can – I’ve been married 4 years and ½ tomorrow – and am I a good wife? – can I love, honor and obey, as I promised? – No – but I’m glad to say that all are not like me!

On Sunday morning we had no service in our own church – so M^{rs} Landale persuaded me to follow her to the Independant – I went – and sat looking at her instead of my book – why? I shall not mention –

In the evening M^r Davies preached to us – after church he & Maria came down to coffee

12 o'clock

Eh bien! me voici!⁷³ We returned from Allan Vale – the bride looked pretty well – Jessie very pale and wretched – poor little girl – she little knows how truly I've read her heart – M^r Connolly as merry as ever – Captⁿ Miller requested M^{rs} Welsh to speak to M^r Grey – as he thought his attentions or [147] intentions towards M^{rs} M were too particular – I was laughing with M^r Airey about a gentleman's penchant for me – when M^r Baxter told me the same evening not to be "at-home" to him the next time he called as he was too often here – Jealous of such a man! Mon Dieu – I would hardly shake hands with him with his glove off!

8th Dined today at Mrs Landale's – M^{rs} Secombe gives a dance tonight –

9th This evening went up to M^{rs} Welsh's – Mess^{rs} Airey and Blackney there – they are exceedingly gentlemanly persons –

10th Went to the Independant Chapel – and in the evening to hear M^r Davies – when I returned found a long letter from M^{rs} Hazard –

11th Maria called this morning – and M^r Airey – [148] I went out and met M^r Youl – we went for a ride – Baxter went into the bush this morning – & does not return until Wednesday.

13th I was rather surprised with the route for Perth this afternoon – Baxter returned late this evening – Captⁿ Tew took coffee with us –

14th This morning Baxter & the men started – I proceed there on Tuesday – a fortnight is passed – a long fortnight indeed! and yet no return – I shall be gone by the third week – I am going up to sit with M^{rs} Landale – a great rout takes place at M^{rs} Wentworth's tomorrow – I am not going –

Today I called on Graham – Mistresses Archer, Welsh, Wellman, Cathcart, Priaulx, Weymouth and then went to see M^{rs} J. Henty's little girl – and then to M^{rs} Baker's – I feel more than I thought I should – I don't know what I shall do when I leave alltogether –

⁷³ Oh well! Here I am (French)!

[149] 17th Last night Baxter came into town & left at 10 this morning – M^r Dry called – M^{rs} Wellman likewise – how she does (what is vulgarly called “pump one”) she thinks every thing is secret & yet is allways anxious to let it be known

I walked up to M^{rs} Welsh’s to see Jessie – she is in capital spirits – what lovely eyes she has! they are brighter than ever – M^r Sinclair wishes us to go up to his house tomorrow night – He is a kind creature –

18th M^r R Dry called – I went out with Jessie – on Thursday M^{rs} Reiby gives a dance – 22nd Last night we went to M^{rs} Reiby’s – I took M^r Blackney with me – we were late – Every body looked well and pleased – My sons were the beaux of the assemblée [sic] – Mess^{rs} Youl, R Dry, and Blackney – we came home at a ¼ to 5 o’clock – I think M^{rs} Attemson was the finest woman there, and Ellen Dry [150] the prettiest girl – all the young persons looked very well – Oh! how exquisitely the German plays the clarinet [sic] – it would send me mad to hear it often –

23rd This morning Mess^{rs} R Dry & Youl called but we were not up – they returned while we were at breakfast – M^r Bowen next – and M^r Sinclair and M^r Blackney – the latter is going to Port Phillip tomorrow, I’m sorry to say – M^r Dry and M^r Cheine came again and the former drove me to Perth – where I now am. It is a lovely spot – if you can only have contentment with you – but I’ve not much of this just now – M^{rs} Salmon is very kind and I shall see Launceston pretty often – so here I am, and as the Judge says to a condemned criminal “The Lord have mercy on me” –

25th Sunday and a wretched day – we dine at D^r Salmon’s

[151] 26th We returned early from D^r Salmon’s, owing to my bad cold – On Wednesday last I had a long letter from M^r Briggs, Margery, Mama & George – M^r Briggs tells me that Baxter’s money is lodged for his Company – Instead of acting on this news – he seems perfectly bewildered and intends waiting to hear from my Uncle – so that it will be 8 or 9 months before he has his promotion – One feels miserably lazy in the country. I think – at least I do! –

Baxter is gone into town this morning to a Court Martial – How I did enjoy myself at M^{rs} Reiby’s the other evening –

27th I went for a long walk by myself and sat for some time opposite to such a pretty little cataract – I was thinking how quiet and beautiful all Nature seemed – except her Masterpiece – Man – and oh! how far from quiet was I!

[152] 28th D^r & M^{rs} Salmon dined with us yesterday – Baxter goes into the bush tomorrow – and D^r Salmon into town – so that M^{rs} Salmon is coming to stay until Friday Evening –

It seems an age since I left dear old Launceston and nobody has been to see me –

Baxter is over at D^r Salmon's tonight – and I am in the Blues, as usual –

29th M^r & M^{rs} T. Walker came to call here – M^r Youl next arrived – and last – (but far from least) came M^r R Dry – He only remained a few minutes – Baxter started for the bush this evening –

30th Staid at Dr Salmon's –

July 1st Went to church – and heard M^r Freeman – it is very wicked to laugh at a minister of Christ's word – but really it's next to impossible to help it – he has such funny expressions – Elizabeth returned home with me –

By the bye, Jock lost a pair of gloves to me – [153] Comme je m'ennuie ici!⁷⁴ –

2nd M^{rs} Salmon, Elizabeth & I went for a long walk – returned home to dinner – and then crossed the water to have some music – but before I left – I received a long & affectionate letter from my own dear Harry – what a happy soul she is! M^{rs} T. Archer and Martha came for me in the morning – but I could not go with them – we returned from M^{rs} Salmon's at 11 o'clock – by moonlight –

3rd Today I had a visitation from the delightful creature! – he remained nearly all day – Baxter returned early today –

4th Elizabeth left this afternoon – we drank tea with M^{rs} Salmon –

5th Had a letter from M^{rs} Welsh this morning – she gives a dance on Friday – Priest came in yesterday with a dreadful eye –

[154] 8th Sunday I have returned from town with my spirits damped my heart breaking – I went into town to a dance – I was unwell when I went – but I had a note that would have taken me to the world's end – 'Tis a pity such a time should have been taken to show off the altered feelings of one, that I madly & blindly loved –

It served me rightly – I ought never to have trusted again to mortal – I asked for some papers to be returned – and they were brought by the one most concerned in them – after me – Some mistake has arisen – I think some excuse was only [word under erasure] wanted – the distance to the new friend's is but short – therefore convenient – M^r Youl brought me out – and a letter awaited me from my Uncle – to advise our going

⁷⁴ How bored I am here (French)!

to India – with what pleasure I shall go – now that my last – my only hope is dashed from me –

[155] 9th M^{rs} Salmon spent the day with me & D^r Salmon came in to dinner – I had a letter from town today – I make no comments – it has partly roused me from the stupor I was in –

10th I answered the letter & put it into the post office myself – M^{rs} Salmon came home with me – M^r Dry called for a minute – I have not been sober since Sunday morning – the opium has taken such an effect – Baxter came out of town late this evening –

13th M^{rs} Salmon spent yesterday with us –& I walked home with her this morning – we went to M^{rs} Darke's – dined there – M^{rs} King & M^r J Wedge called – when we came home, we found D^r Salmon – he & Baxter had dinner and then they went to pass the evening at Captain Ritchie's – M^r Dry is to have Freedom to take into the bush with him – I am going to N. Plains on Sunday –

[156] 16th Came to the Parsonage yesterday with Maria & M^r Davies – found M^r R Davies here. Baxter arrived soon after – what a shocking night! I hope none of my friends are out in the bush! – or I wish I were with them – How pained I've been today with my chest – when I think of the many mad things I do to try my constitution, can I wonder that it's already failing me? Harriette's letter has made me consider a little the charge that we have from God of our health & how wicked it is to trifle with it – yet what should I wish for a long life for – only to repent? – What do I repent of? Oh! not of my last, my worst sin! No, I love too much to glory in it – and who would not? Tomorrow we all go to Woolmers – I came from home to avoid something, that I [157] must have done had I remembered – and which is detestable – to me –

17th Today we came to Woolmers –

18th Maria & M^{rs} Archer went for a drive – & the girls out walking – I remained at home, being too poorly to go out – Baxter came to dinner – my chest is very bad – finished M^{rs} Graham's work – poor old Lady. We had a long debate today on the propriety, (or rather the impropriety) of waltzing – I have found this dance delightful – but never until the last two dances (M^{rs} J. Reiby's & M^{rs} Welsh's) have I found it entrancing! – to be held by one you love, you adore – oh! there's no describing a waltz in such a situation !!

20th Returned M^{rs} T. Walker's call today – Tomorrow we return to the Parsonage – & next day to Perth – Baxter staid here last night [158] & returned home this morning

This evening M^{rs} Archer & I had a long debate on different subjects – one was that I set a bad example to young persons in this Colony –I cannot quite understand it – but it’s too much trouble to enquire into the matter any further –I believe her to be a sincere friend but mistaken on very many subjects – yet what right have I, a being like herself, to judge her? this day fortnight was one of my most miserable days in this melancholy world – oh! I was unhappy!

21st Returned to the dear Parsonage early this morning – M^r & M^{rs} Weston, M^r & M^{rs} Archer, M^{rs} M^cDonald, M^{rs} T. Archer, Martha & Miss Cowie came to hear M^r Davies read –

Supple came over to tell me Baxter went into the bush today –I hope they may have good luck – [159] By the bye – M^{rs} M^cD is something in figure like M^{rs} Miller – only with the exception that the former does not need the stays padded – well! a bustle is “comme il faut” – mais⁷⁵ – I could not bring myself to wear [a] false front as well – too much is milk-maidish – but a woman is not one to my taste without un peu⁷⁶ – perhaps I may be wrong in my judgement – when I say that I would pass over an ugly face (or even a pretty one), to see a fine neck & shoulders – I recollect Kate Daniels, how I positively feasted my eyes on her beautiful neck one evening she was dressing for a ball at Rochester and Harriette’s even surpassed Kate’s – I return home tomorrow after church – How much I wish I could hear from Sidney! I wonder when M^r Airey intends coming [160] down to this part of the globe again? what an excellent joke to hear les ignorans talk of him – one so totally their superior! that he wishes to be thought an exclusive – well! even I, his sincerest friend, allow that he is unique –

I am reading Jacquemont’s travels in India – on my word I think him the vainest man I ever heard of – I never found the French gentlemen so pleasing, except M^r de Glorier – and he used to flatter me so quietly, that even young as I was, I might have been rather fond of him, in time – I should like to know what he did with any likeness, that he took –

Oh! I was measured today & am 5 feet 5 ½ – so I’ve grown an inch this last year! I wish I could grow another inch – perhaps I shall in Sidney – the warmth of the climate –

[161] 22nd Returned with Maria & M^r Davies to church – M^{rs} Salmon made me stay there to dinner & then she & M^r Norman M^cLeod came over with me to drink coffee! –

⁷⁵ “proper/ correct” – but (French).

⁷⁶ A little (French).

The William is in – I hope to have some letters by her tomorrow –

23rd I thought I might as well go for a ride today – so I took Norton with me to Mowen – called on M^{rs} Wales – she is so altered! I next went to M^{rs} Freeman's – she looked untidy – but very pretty – I came home the round – and am rather tired – During my absence M^r Airey called – I am so sorry – went over to M^{rs} Salmon's – M^r B Thomas there – News of the bushrangers – a poor constable brought home with his two fingers shot off –

24th Today D^r & M^{rs} Salmon & I rode to M^{rs} Youl's – I remained until 4 o'clock & then returned with M^r W. Youl & Norton – Major Turner called [162] in the morning –

25th D^r & M^{rs} Salmon rode home & luncheoned with me – I went over in the evening – after I came back I copied a valse in M^r Airey's book – Had a letter from Baxter – he will not be home for a week – I am thinking of going into town tomorrow –

27th Rode into town this morning with Ducas – I got on to M^{rs} Welsh's filly and rode to Elphin with M^r R Dry – called at M^{rs} Miller's – M^r Burt & M^r Grey are both at M^{rs} Welsh's –

28th Went this evening to hear M^r Maynard –

August 1st This evening Capt^{ns} Walmsley & Hill – Mess^{rs} Grey, E. Willis & Hazlewood were here – Baxter came into town on Monday – I spent a very pleasant day at dear Elphin on Sunday –

2nd Rode out of town today with Baxter & M^r C. Hazlewood – M^r Youl came home with us from the other side – letter from M^r B. Baxter – [163] D^r & M^{rs} Salmon were here in the evening –

5th M^{rs} Penny has been staying with the Salmons – I'm afraid she will present M^r Connolly with a Grandchild before I shall – M^r & the Misses Youl were here today before church – I did not go – not being well enough to walk there – M^r Youl breakfasts' here in the morning & has kindly offered to drive me in to town – I think I shall go – Ball – the bushranger was shot the day before yesterday –

M^r Wales rode over today – & Baxter went to see him so they passed each other

6th Went into town this morning with M^r Youl –

7th Returned today – D^r & M^{rs} Salmon dined with us –and M^r Sinclair –

10th Baxter went into town this morning – M^r Dry brought out Freedom – Major Turner called and D^r Salmon – We went over the water in the evening – Had a letter [164] from M^{rs} Welsh & some work for poor Graham –

11th Baxter is gone to Woolmers – and I’m really glad whenever he goes out – for he is so continually finding fault with me for such trifles – We go to Port Phillip! I wish he may get it! if I do go it’s with one reason –

15th Today M^{rs} Welsh, M^r & M^{rs} Miller, Miss Welsh, Miss Baker and Major Ryan came & dined with us – I returned into town with them –

16th Jessie M^r Welsh & myself rode down to Allan Vale & came home late in the evening – Major Ryan & Captⁿ Friend were here – M^r R Dry called just before we started –

17th Poor M^r Dry is seriously ill – I trust he will soon recover – Captⁿ Tew drove me out to Perth –

18th M^r Davies was here to luncheon – I’m very poorly today –

19th Last night Walker and Steers were taken.

[165] M^r Youl called and I drove to church with them – Baxter went into town this even’g to drive out the Ladies tomorrow –

I feel in such low spirits that I cannot put on a very merry face and go to M^r Sinclair’s tomorrow –

I’ve been reading some letters that I had better not have read – they recall happy[,] happy moments – and I have done with such! – Oh! at times I’m miserable in every sense of the word M^r Burt has sent me the sketch of Quamby’s Bluff –

20th This evening Norton accompanied me over to Clare Ville – I found all the party there – consisting of M^r & M^{rs} Allan, M^r & M^{rs} & Miss Welsh, M^{rs} Miller and dear old Janet – I escaped off to bed earlier than the others –

21st This morning Jessie & I took a delightfully [166] cold bath – we of course were much longer dressing than the other ladies – and finding hurrying – make me feel ill – I requested that breakfast should not be kept waiting – M^r Sinclair, however ^{would not} hear of it – and said so – this created a most exquisite row!

M^{rs} Miller said it was very improper the two youngest of the party keeping the others waiting – & I returned for answer that I had never been in the Lowlands to learn manners and I considered it an impertinent observation –

M^r C. Hazlewood came to breakfast – and said how sorry he was that he could not accompany us – but that he would meet us there the next morning –

We started – all the party driving but Jessie, M^r Welsh & myself – We reached Lanick at 2 o’clock – and the cart & gig were there changed for a bullock cart of M^r Burt’s –

[167] I forget to mention that we riders went by the Punt – when we got there we at least expected that the other had passed this they had not – so we rode to the ford to prevent their coming that way – when we were close there – I fancied I saw an Auction going on – for the fence was quite covered with wearing apparel – down we went! – and to our amazement beheld M^r Allan drying the clothes that were from the gig – He had attempted crossing the ford and it was too high so the gig was nearly floating – I packed up the box again & the cart soon hove in sight – We were near M^r Burt's – when my good friend "Cupid" came up – He rode the rest of the way with us – Shortly afterwards M^r & M^{rs} Cathcart, M^r Frazer, Major Ryan and our dear little Father – arrived –

[168] The Ladies wished to retire early – but the Gents. so earnestly begged for the contrary that we returned from our rooms to the drawing room – I played the quadrilles – and had one little nice valse with the Father – I then slipped out of the room & went to bed – For I felt in the midst of society – lonely –

22nd M^r C. Hazlewood Came to breakfast – the Father, Cupid & M^r Frazer went out shooting – and we went up to the sugarloaf near Adelphi – M^r R Dry came – The party made a circle and cut us out – so Jessie, M^r C Hazlewood, Major Ryan & myself formed a coterie of our own – In the evening the Dance took place – I waltzed once with M^r Hazlewood – and then I had quite enough –

M^{rs} Miller & I certainly do not quite coincide – she dared to abuse our Father & Cupid and then met them so sweetly – as tho' she could not [169] even have thought what she said – M^r Dry could not stop – they were all sorry but one felt it more than all – altho' that one had been purposely neglected during the day – we did not go to bed until 5 o'clock –

23rd All gone this morning but the Father – and he went at 11 o'clock – All the people went to sleep but me – and I kept up – because I heard M^r Burt say that it was a pity there were no young beaux to entertain us – we rode Sultan today –

24th We went for a ride nearly to Carrick – got quite wet – M^r Welsh returned from town – we had just finished dinner when Mess^{rs} Cheyne, Dry & Youl came in – This evening M^r Dry never spoke to me – except to ask me to dance the last in the room – & he would not then – if any body else had been disengaged – I therefore [170] refused – for even my feelings will not quite abolish my pride – After we went to bed the gentlemen exceeded dreadfully! –

25th We were frightened out of bed by M^r Dry playing the Flageolet – They started soon after – and at 12 – we followed – Baxter & I to Perth and – the rest into town – Oh! I'm

quite done for – mind & body – and – much as M^r Burt did to make everything pleasant – still it has been an unhappy week – Often have I left the room laughing to retire to my own room and cry –

I'm home again!

26th I was not quite well enough to go to church today – wrote to my beloved brother – M^{rs} Archer and dear old Janet – Upon my word I think that girl likes me – I'm sorry for it – for I never wished either to love or be loved by a woman again – She is one of the finest disposed girls I [171] ever met in my life –

Baxter is going into town tomorrow to remain the night – By the bye – he became desperately jealous of poor M^r H — d – and made a sad noise on my valsing so often with him – so I danced with no one else –

M^r Dry must have a great regard for the giver of the ring he allways wears – for he offered it in exchange for a new one of M^{rs} Welsh's – I'll take good care to give nothing – it would be served the same –

Today my little Music book & note that I had written with it to Ellen Dry were returned – re-directed – I presume its to be a family cut – but I don't think Ellen or Miss Dry would do such a thing – I'm to have a blister on my chest –

27th Baxter went into town this morning – [172] and does not return until tomorrow – Captain Cheyne left this morning – D^r Salmon called – and tonight the Turkey⁷⁷ – No letter by the post – Finished mine to dear William –

Sep^t 1st Today Miss Dry was married to D^r Richardson – The Youls went into town yesterday – M^r Youl called on the way, to see how I was – His sisters very kindly remained where they were – I told him about the book – and he said it was planned to cut me as soon as they could – what can it be for? – I'm certain I would never have said anything to hurt their feelings! I've too great a regard for them – I asked him to find out what was the matter? –

M^r Clarke and M^r Sinclair called – M^r Norman came over in the evening – I'm still not able to leave the house – My illness is more mental than bodily –

[173] We expect to be ordered into town again soon – I hope then soon to Sydney – what rows have ensued from that party of M^r Burt's – it must be exceedingly unpleasant to the poor little man – somebody has mentioned the last night's proceedings – and such outré things have been said respecting it –

⁷⁷ Accurate transcription.

3rd M^{rs} Salmon spent the day with me – M^r Youl called – When Baxter returned from town – they went out together & the former shot some snipes –

4th This evening we went over to D^r Salmon's – on Monday I rode M^r Norman's young horse –

7th Mr Stapleton called this evening – D^r & M^{rs} Salmon came in too –

8th M^r Stapleton & Baxter are gone to Symmons Plains – they wished me to go – but I preferred remaining – it is like their impudence – [174] wishing to be cool to me! if they only knew the thorough contempt with which I look upon the community at large – their purse-pride might suffer – it must be this sort of pride – for they have no blood to be vain of – Annie Maria Hadden – received coolly by the Misses Youl! C'est bien ridicule!⁷⁸ were it not for their brother I'd cut them – but Plebeian blood is beneath my notice –

9th Went to church – M^r Davies and Maria went into town after – and are to call for me tomorrow – Baxter & M^r Stapleton went into town –

10th Baxter is just returned – and says I am to be ready to go to Sydney on about Saturday – I cannot believe it! – Leave Van Dieman's Land! – He asked me if I wished to stop to ask the Major – I shall do no such thing – “It's time to go when people are getting tired of me”!

[175] Had two long letters from dear M^{rs} Hazard. Came to the Parsonage – found M^r & M^{rs} Jones –

11th Very wet – and the Jones' were obliged to remain all day – went to Woolmers –

12th M^{rs} Jones remained today too – a M^r M^cDonald was here to dinner –

13th The Jones' started soon after breakfast – and M^r Davies drove us to M^{rs} Weston's and then to call on the Bride – M^{rs} Richardson – she looked as good tempered as ever – M^r & M^{rs} M^cDonald, M^r & M^{rs} Smith, M^r Rupsil & Baxter came to dinner –

14th Only ourselves today – a nice quiet chat –

15th Dear M^r Davies' 33rd Birthday – Baxter went into town early this morning – I went after the prayers to the “Refuge” – with M^{rs} Archer – quite alone this evening –

22nd Yesterday came into town for the last time – to M^{rs} Welsh's – we sail for [176] Sydney tomorrow. M^r Dry called – I went out to make some calls – he went out with me – but left me at the corner of the street – Met D^r Richardson & he told me some news – which makes up my mind – called and saw M^{rs} Weymouth – M^{rs} Graham and poor

⁷⁸ It is too ridiculous (French)!

Bridget – How my heart ached to see these poor creatures – sorry – really sorry – to say Good-bye to me – In the evening I went to see M^{rs} Wellman – and M^{rs} Baker – Jessie gave me a very pretty ring – a public dinner given to the Officers –

23rd This morning at 7 o'clock – dear Jessie came up & sat with me – at 9 Jessie, M^{rs} Baker & M^r Dry came – at ½ past 10 – Captⁿ Tew came and said it was time to start – start from this [177] dear place – we went down to the boat – M^r & Jessie Allan, M^r Leigh & M^r R Dry with us – We left Launceston! –

On Tuesday we got out of [the] river Tamar – for ever, I think –

SECOND VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND: 29 NOVEMBER 1844 – 7 MARCH 1845

Notebook 5 (MS. Q181 Item 5): 39-87

[39] 29th Friday. At length we have a fine fair wind – & most probably shall be in George Town tonight – We are now just opposite to the Grampion Hills, near “Port Sorrell” – and only about 40 miles from the Heads.

5 o'clock A.M. We are now anchored off Mt Direction where I expect we shall remain until tomorrow morning early, and then for dear Launceston.

The Tamar does not appear to me altered in the least, excepting only a small church built near the “Whirlpool Beach” – and another in George Town – A dock is in progress near this, and when I say that I only notice a few new settlements; I say [40] all! The last time I came down this River, it was in company with my brother Officers – Alas! ¹ yesterday was the 5th Anniversary of the demise of one of them – and the rest where are they?

30th Saturday – The wind was favorable yesterday until we reached Mt Direction – when its becoming contrary, obliged us to remain there all night; and this morning we got as far as M^r Griffith's farm. We went ashore for a short time, which was a great treat to poor Ada, who skipped along like a mad thing!

At 12 o'clock, a boat came down for the Mails, so Captⁿ Martin and I got into it, and went up to Launceston – where I repaired to the “Cornwall”. Charles Friend came in immediately to see me. I went next to the Wellman's – and there remained until the Waiter came to tell me M^r Dry had called. I found him as ever – Kind and happy to see me! He is paler – but otherwise improved; with the sole exception of having lost a front tooth.

31st Sunday² – I went to Trinity Church with M^{rs} Wellman & the girls – dined at her house – and went to the old church in the evening. [41] A church always makes me think – I do'nt say on all that I should think, yet still every idea is sobered down in it! My feelings are making sad havock with me – I fancied (and how absurdly) that being in the bush had made me less passionate and sensitive! But now I find I am as I was – and nothing will alter me.

M^{rs} Pugh sat next to me, and remarked what a time it was since she had seen me – She is improved outwardly – What jokes “Our's” used to have about her.

¹ A page has been cut from the journal between “say” and “all”.

² Date is incorrect – The correct date is December 1st. As a consequence of this error the sequence of dates until December 16th is also incorrect.

We had tea – and as I was undecided as to whether I would go to Hobart Town tomorrow or not, I went in rather early to the Hotel – I did not go to sleep tho’ – – – 1st [December] Monday. I forgot to mention that yesterday Mess^{rs} Dry and Willmot called. The former is truly the very nicest person I ever met – and yet with all that he can wish almost, he seems melancholy and unhappy – alas! “there is a skeleton in every house”!

I was called at 3 o’clock to start per coach, having [42] determined on going across the country. Dear Ada was in charge of M^r Dry’s servant, and well taken care of. M^{rs} Weedon was in the Coach when I reached it, and her husband standing outside – The last time I saw him, he was paying devoted (?) attention to poor M^{rs} Turner! How soon are the dead forgotten!

The Coach was crowded – and I, being very sleepy and inclined to muse, shut my eyes, and began to think in earnest. The roads are so much improved, and really good now. Nothing occurred to us worthy of note – excepting my nearly sending an elderly lady into fits from fright, when we were crossing at Bridgewater.

When I reached Hobart Town, I procured a Cab, and Ada & I drove to William’s house in Macquarie Street. It is certainly a long way out of town – I rang at the bell, and after ascertaining that the gentleman was home, I passed the servant, and just as I got to the drawing room, William opened the door and made a regular spring at me!

Bessie was lying on the sofa, looking very delicate – yet not altered in the least, either in manner or appearance!

[43] William is not as handsome as he was – but still goodlooking – and so very like my Uncle in voice, and manner. He has Harriet’s portrait here, which they say is very like her; if so, she is stouter considerably – and has a cross look. She has no care tho’, and is very happy.

3rd Wednesday. Today was the Regatta – William & I went in a Cab to call for Miss Sorrell – She and her sister were soon with us. Neither of them are pretty, altho’ both are good looking! Their eyes are small & the eldest’ have the Vixen depicted in them.

We next called at M^r Doveton’s – but found that he and his sister-in-law Miss Bostock had walked on to the Engineer Wharf – where after finding them, we embarked in the Engineer’s boat. It had a nice awning, and was roomy & clean. We saw the 1st race on the water – and after that we went ashore, and walked up to the Flower show. We there saw all the world, and were nearly choked!

Soon after, we went on board the “Albatross”, a pretty yacht, where luncheon was laid for a great many persons – and who by the way, seemed to partake very freely of it – of course, so that the entertainer [44] should not be disappointed! I found that the cabin was so full, that I went into the bed-room and there sat until the other folks had vacated it – when I was called in; and sitting on the sofa, when the Misses Landale with their Uncle came in. We all went on shore soon – and William went for Bessie, who had promised to come at 2 o’clock.

The Band was the greatest treat to me – and I was quite tired of being taken about from one place to another by Miss Sorrell, who wished to attract the attention of some person, or persons, to me unknown!

We walked up to the Observatory, accompanied by Mess^{rs} Dry and three others. After they were gone, we had some music and singing – the latter by M^r Kay – who has such a pretty collection of English and Italian music.

6th Saturday. I refused to go to either a Public Ball or Government House – as I am not fit for such entertainments! Not but that I could laugh, talk, and in fact make a fool of myself as well as most persons; but I have my own private thoughts on this subject, which others, perhaps more worldly, would laugh at.

[45] This evening however, I dined out in company with Bessie, William and D^r Robertson, at Major Victor’s. They appear very agreeable, kind people. Bessie, who purposes doing “Exclusive”, mixes freely in their society!

A most laughable story is told of His Excellency’s being surprised on the day of the Regatta, kissing Miss King – who is a very pretty girl and sister to M^{rs} Pringle Steward.

I had a long letter from M^{rs} McLeod, in which she gives me some wholesome advice – would that I could take it. I know of nothing more ungrateful than the office of adviser. We so often ask for it, and when given, we seldom take it.

Yesterday I had a pleasant ride with William on M^r Dry’s horse “Alonzo”. M^r Erskine met us, and asked if we knew where M^r Dry was as M^{rs} Erskine wanted his horse to ride? “Brother Dick” is even more than ever a favorite it seems with all – especially the fair sex – and no wonder; I never met his equal, nor shall ever try! There is something so peculiarly flattering in his gentle, melancholy voice – and still more in his peculiarly earnest look. I’m so glad William likes him – but I felt certain he [46] would.

10th Wednesday. Today M^r & M^{rs} Erskine called, and at the same time M^{rs} Burgess and M^r Dry. The two latter walked down into the Town with us.

11th Thursday. I got up very early this morning to see William off – as he is going to Port Arthur. Bessie went for a drive – She is very delicate, but I think would be better if she were obliged to try and walk. I called on M^{rs} Barnes, and M^{rs} Miller. I then walked as far as Webb's, and had to remain there for some time as it rained hard – so much so, that I at last came home in a Cab.

16th I sat some time with M^{rs} Barnes today. I like her good hearted manners – altho' Madame ma soeur does not – and tries to vex me, by saying such rude, unladylike things of her!

Dear William returned this evening; He likes his Mare very much, and says I shall ride her.

I yesterday received a long letter from Margaret – begging my forgiveness for her hasty conclusion respecting D^r M's letters! Indeed she little knows me, if she for an instant fancies I would do such a thing!

Yesabba is looking very well she tells me – and [47] the rose hedge I planted, lovely. My pretty Station, how fond I was of it – with its beautiful moonlight nights – and romantic scenery! I must make Yambuck as pretty as I can now that I intend remaining there for some time!

The Judge is married, and is to be out this month in Sydney. His wife will find a slight difference in New, and Old England – but she has a good husband & that will make up for a good deal. How Salisbury will be improved under a Lady's management! No more carousals – no more tin-dishing – vegetable-work!! The bachelors, amongst them M^r Baker, will not find it so agreeable as of old.

19th William started again this morning for Maria Island, and is to return by Christmas-day. Dear fellow! he is very much worried – and if I had not put up with so much myself, I could wonder how he stands it all! I heard the Cape story today – and wonder how after such an exposé, the heroine can talk as she does of other people? Fearful, terrible, must have been her education, that she thinks so vastly about!

[48] Bessie is the most unamiable, unenviable beauty, I ever came in contact with! I declare most solemnly, that I would not exchange my looks and heart for her's – no, not for a world! It appears quite delightful to her, my being less good looking than herself – and yet she is jealous. Poor creature! She is indeed to be pitied.

I went for a drive with D^r Robertson and William round the Domain. He has such a pretty carriage & horses – I would like some just like them.

I answered M^{rs} McLeod and Margaret's letters – and have a letter nearly ready for dear Marion. Bessie talks of the Colonial girls being inferior to our's! – true in most cases – but can she, or either of her boasted sisters equal either Jessie or Marion?

I sat down yesterday to have a tooth out – and could not summon courage enough! I had two stopped tho – and ugly enough they look!

20th I went up yesterday afternoon, and passed until 10 o'clock at M^{rs} Barnes' – M^r Kermode was there, looking very well indeed. I like M^{rs} Barnes very much – she has so much natural talent – and a kind heart into the bargain. [49] She & her husband are going up to New Norfolk on Monday, to pass the Christmas week with Sir Eardley Wilmot. M^r Wilmot called there whilst I was there. M^r & M^{rs} Barnes walked home with me.

22nd Sunday. I yesterday walked to return M^{rs} Erskine's visit, and found her from home. I then went to look over the new house; it is a nice one. I next walked into the town, and made several purchases from Lewis' – whom I consider very dear with their goods.

Whilst I was from home, M^{rs} Elliott called with her Niece, Miss Osburn.

D^r Robertson came just as I did. I rather like him; but he will find me check him more in his little bits of scandal – for altho' I perfectly agree with Madam de Ventadour in admiring the system of scandal still I return to the Golden Law of "Do unto thy neighbour, as thou would'st he should do unto thee"! And how soon we fire up when we hear anything against ourselves.

25th Wednesday – and Christmas-day. As usual, it is exceedingly hot on this day, so reminding us of our extreme distance from dear old England!

[50] How lightly do we think of the meaning of today's being kept as a holliday by all classes! From our very earliest childhood this season is associated with visions of plum puddings & mince pies – these fill our ideas of Christmas then!

The next stage, gifts from friends – given always with the hope that the following Christmas may find us better children than this!

Then comes School-time – the really happy days of our life! When our joys and sorrows are like April weather – (oh! which of us would not gladly hail those days again with pleasure?) How we look forward to Christmas for going home – seeing those we love, and who love us! Recounting all our sports and mischief while at school; and

whilst it is impossible to help laughing at our tricks, the seniors say with forced gravity, “Yes, but next Christmas I hope will see you steadier”!

Can we not all imagine the family groups sitting round a cheerful fire – the Heads of the circle, looking at their children, their children’s children – and as I have seen, their Great-grandchildren; with an honest Pride, known & felt by these favoured members [51] of society, as only!

How few of us during these times think of the real reason why we should rejoice! Of what an inestimable gift this season once brought to Mankind – Of the troubles and lowliness thro’ which a Saviour passed– One who was afterwards suffered to die the degrading death of Crucifixion! And this all from the great love our God bore us!

I have heard a child say “What is Christmas”? and answered with “Oh! the time for mince pies, and Missletoe & Holly”! Of course they are then too young to be informed of the actual meaning – and it is perhaps a good thing to rejoice, even in that way. Alas! We are children of a larger growth – and we continue from one year to another looking forward to Christmas as a Pastime – and it is only at the eleventh hour we find out the true meaning of all the great benefits we have received! Would that I could write all that I think on this – and how grateful I feel to my Almighty for all his benefits to me, and those I love. Even my wild, impassioned nature feels subdued by such timely ideas – God grant me strength and mind [52] to improve such.

I walked up to M^{rs} Barnes’ soon after breakfast, to get some fruit – It is excessively warm today – I had not been very long in, before I spied dear William coming down the street. Poor fellow, he has had a hot ride of it.

How all my kind Port Macquarie friends will be thinking of me today – and wishing me with them! Margaret tells me in her letter of Percy’s anxiety to get an answer from me to his last. Dear boy! He was so kind always to me – and forgot his usual levity when with me. I like him for his own intrinsic worth, and likewise that his ways remind me of another, whom I trust he may always resemble for his own sake.

26th It has been a sultry day – and poor Bessie appeared to feel it very much so! I walked up after dinner to get some books from M^{rs} Barnes’ – and have brought back “Tales of the Colonies”.

27th William & I took a ride this afternoon – I on his Mare, and which carried me very well.

We called on M^r & M^{rs} Belchier – and left our cards at Government House. We called coming back, on [53] M^{rs} Elliott – the Colonel’s wife of the 51st. She was, we are told,

formerly Chère amie³ to Lord Osburn; by whom she has a Niece. Depuis⁴ she lived with Mons^r le Colonel in the same way; eventually however, she purchased him two steps, and before the last one, he married her. William did not wish me to call on her – but I said I would only leave my card – as I’m not a resident, I do’nt see why I should take the law into my own hands! She was sitting in the Verandah; and I said I was late for dinner, and would not get off my horse.

Poor William Kemp is very ill with a dangerous complaint rather – my brother went in to see him. M^r Dry is in town – but I suppose I shall not meet, or see him for some days – as he will no doubt go to see his friends at Bothwell.

M^r & M^{rs} Macarthur called on me whilst I was out. I have written to dear Marion, but unfortunately the Sydney Steamer went this afternoon – I shall in consequence be a week later.

The Colonial Treasurer, (I ca’nt spell his name) rode part of the way with us – and pressed us to go to see him– He is a funny stout old person – and [54] a great admirer of the “Fine arts”. His house is very good – and so beautifully situated. I thought I almost felt inclined to envy him it – yet what benefit should I derive in living in a Palace even, with my lonely heart?

I have been reading “Hood’s Rhine” – I think it is well written – at least cleverly so!

29th Saturday. M^r Dry called today, and tells me that he is going over to Port Fairy immediately; in consequence I have written to Baxter.

D^r Robertson came in for a short time – and he & M^r Dry left together. I then walked up to M^{rs} Barnes’ – and on my return was overtaken by M^r Bicheno, who positively dismounted, (no easy matter by the way!) and walked home with me! as he had come expressly to ask William & I to dine with him tomorrow. Directly he mentioned the purport of his visit, to our surprise Bessie said she would go too!

D^r Seccombe breakfasted with us this morning – He has prescribed medicine for me – and ordered me to do what I detest! But if it will cure me, I shall be amply repaid for the disagreeable receipt.

30th Sunday. William & I had a long strole in the [55] garden after breakfast – where he told me such things! We went to M^r Bicheno’s to dinner – where we found two other persons. The old gentleman was so kind, that William declares he is smitten with me.

³ Mistress (French).

⁴ Since (French).

He said I was to tell him what books, or indeed anything, that I wanted in the bush – as he would gladly contribute! What a pity I'm not single for his sake!!!

We returned home early – where my pet, Ada, met me so delighted. Dear beauty! how fond I am of her!

When I look at the expression that I made use of in the above line – it recalls to my mind the poor soul who used to say it to me – and all the kindness, affection and gentleness I met with from that person, and then to think of Death taking so young & accomplished a creature from us all!

31st ~~Monday~~ Tuesday I walked into town yesterday with my brother – and made a few purchases. Major M^cShane came with me too – I was telling him that it was 15 years since he and I had last met. And he appeared to doubt it. He looks much older – yet I'm told he is a sad Roué – but old men always are worse than young ones when they are bad at all; at all events it appears more so, owing to its being so very [56] unnatural! How apt I am at forming excuses for any that I like.

William dined at M^r Burnett's – and returned home in time to dress for starting in the Coach. He came & had a chat with me before he left.

M^r Dry called during the morning – the more I see him, the more I think of the happy old times in Launceston – And will they never return, or some like them? He is going out of town at 4 o'clock, on his way to Campbell Town Races – and then to our Port!

This is the last day of 1844 – Eh! bien it has certainly ended far more happily than I ever anticipated – it only shows what a few days may bring forth! What comparative happiness, and its reverse rests on the breath of man! How simple it appears to me to be so dependant on my fellow creatures – and how I have schooled my heart into apathy & carelessness of what the world may say & think of me!

Nature, I fear, will still hold her sway – and whether in /45 or /44 – my feelings will not change any more, than my name –

A.M. Baxter.

Hobart Town.

[57]1st of January 1845. Wednesday

The first day of another year – and perhaps it may be happier to me than the last – altho' I certainly have no right to complain, it having ended too happily for me! Yet,

notwithstanding my having seen some friends very, very dear to me – still I feel, (and must always do so, situated as I am,) such a loneliness of heart.

A Parent often says of his, or her child “It is so good hearted, thank God”. I should almost wish for the contrary for mine, if I had any – for if the poor child suffered with the effects of a sensitive heart as I have done, oh! how I would pity it!

Soon after breakfast, I went into the town, and made myself a New-year’s gift – it is a pretty locket, with Isabella’s hair in it – and initials R. on the outside. I made another purchase likewise.

I met M^r Barnes, and he gave me an invite to dine with them on Friday – to meet M^r & M^{rs} Belchier, and M^r A. Wilmot. I sent a parcel to M^{rs} Hazard, by M^{rs} Macarthur, who is going to Melbourne on Saturday.

2nd Thursday. What a delightful occupation is [58] that of making jam! My feelings warmed, as I found the jam doing so! Then again my hands all spattered with the sweets – and scalded accordingly! N’importe,⁵ they who would taste of the sweets, must likewise feel the sours!

D^r Seccombe called this morning – and gave me a scolding.

M^{rs} Victor came for Bessie – and M^r Kay called at the same time. He is going to send me some music. Captain & M^{rs} Booth paid us a visit, but Bessie being in the carriage at the time, they did not come up.

In the evening I rode the Mare on William’s saddle a short way. I feel to want exercise and excitement!

3rd Friday In the evening I dined with M^r & M^{rs} Barnes – where I met M^r & M^{rs} Belchier, and M^r Wilmot. M^{rs} Belchier appears an amiable person – and her spouse is not so I should say – altho’ very gentlemanly – when he does not speak!

M^r Wilmot is musical – and entertaining in a quiet way – but nothing particular.

M^r Barnes brought me home at night. M^{rs} Barnes [59] delighted us all with her beautiful voice, and did so without much pressing, which made it doubly agreeable. She appears very low – and nervous!

5th Sunday. I walked to church in the afternoon – and only had to wait an hour at M^{rs} Webb’s. When I did go – it brought to my mind the last time I had been in the same church! I was then a giddy girl – and not unhappy – My heart had not then known

⁵ Never Mind (French).

either a real pang – or a real pleasure; I have known both since then: yet the pleasures have only added to the pains – “telle est la vie”!⁶

Next to me sat a nice looking young girl, and with her a little baby (with its nurse –) it was evidently her first, from the anxiety she displayed about it. I do’nt like to look at babies – they always with me, bring on a disagreeable train of thoughts. I’m sure I should have made such a fond mother – for I like Louis so much, as dear William’s child – then how much more my own! Yet with me, as with Byron “I would love it, for it’s Father’s sake” – and that only.

[60] 6th Monday. I received a note from M^{rs} Barnes this morning, accompanied by some fruit – and an invite to go and stay a week with her. But I could not take Ada – and so she and I will remain together – My pet! She has been my companion in Misery, and shall be so in all else!

M^r & M^{rs} Doveton sat some time here with me. It is the first time I ever saw her, and I think her exceedingly pretty. I promised to go up and see their child on Wednesday.

7th Tuesday. After sundry jam making, I went to sit with M^{rs} Barnes. I remained some time with her, and then returned – to find dear William home! He has brought such a nice horse with him – and is quite pleased with his trip across country.

He told us that he did not like the people in this Colony generally – and the only man he really did like – was one to whom he intended never to be under an obligation to – and that was, (of course) Richard Dry! All, every one, he tells me imposes on his good temper – and nature.

[61] How very rude and unamiable Bessie has been this evening! And it so contrasted with M^{rs} Barnes’ kind manners. The latter wishes me so much to go and stay with them – but home, home! Oh! how I could have loved it! And what a discontented mortal I seem to be always complaining. Yet indeed God knows how thankful I am to him for having permitted me to see once more, those dearest and best loved to me in this World – how little too, did I either expect, or deserve it.

The Minerva is to sail today; I hope they will have fair weather, and a quick passage.

I will finish the night by saying “God bless my dear absent friends”! Une semaine est passée!⁷

⁶ Such is life (French).

⁷ A week has passed (French).

8th Wednesday. It has been such a dis-agreeable day – so blowing & dusty! I went up to see M^{rs} Doveton's child – and felt fagged to death – On my way home with William, I passed M^r Dry's fair friend, (shall I say chère?) Miss G. Kemp – looking so smiling and happy! And beside her, sat a young man, whom I suspect was M^r Ashburner. I wonder if she has been riding [62] lately – and tied her horse up to a tree, whilst she & her attaché amused themselves in the bush?

How different is Man's and Woman's love! How true the words of "the Favor'd Guest"! Yet then generally happen to fall in with persons like the Misses K— p, and they then imagine all of us to think, act, and love as lightly.

9th Thursday. William & I rode to the Probation station at Brown's River, this afternoon. I, on his new horse "The Moor" – which is such a thorough pet! He trots, and canters à merveille,⁸ and carried me so well.

The ride is very pretty indeed – and I saw the entrance to the Harbour for the first time since I came in 10 years ago! Strange to say, I met M^r Moss the other day – and he was so glad to see me again. He is married, and doing very well as Clerk in some Government Office.

12th Sunday. All day yesterday I was so very ill with my violent pain in the stomach. D^r Seccombe was twice with me – and I had on leeches; today too, I'm still in much pain.

In the afternoon, William brought me three letters: [63] One of them from my old friend & favorite M^r Youl and les autres from dear Marion & Margaret. The latter is coming down this month to Port Phillip and then promises to come & stay with me. The Stephen's are gone to Hamilton again. Strange that Percy keeps away from Yesabba so much whilst they are there.

14th Tuesday. I am thank God, nearly all right this morning – altho' rather shaky. William, who came into my room just now as I was dressing, said "What, up! that's right – 'the early bird catches the worm' they say; do you know the answer to that"? After my replying in the negative, he said "What a fool the worm was to be out"! I yesterday begun the Waistcoat – which I fear will not be pretty. Reading "Granby" by Lister. (& -)

15th Wednesday. Today a Fancy Fair was held, & numerously attended I believe. In the evening D^r Robertson was here; he is too fond of abusing the good folks out in this

⁸ Wonderfully (French).

colony, to please me! Altho' he has met with scarcely more civility than I have on this side of the Island.

He was saying something that deeply grieved me, [64] and oh! what I would give to be able to assist in this case. Advice, is uncommonly like impertinence in such matters – so that that, I would not like to give.

Bessie has behaved so unlike a lady for the last week, that I can scarcely, even for dear William's sake, help telling her my mind. She laughs & talks with her servants – and if I go into the room, she never speaks to me at all – consequently I remain in my own room now; and feel so wretched. I would not be bound to live in the same house with her for any time, for the whole world! She is the most disagreeable, unamiable, unladylike woman I ever met.

What a difference in Bessie and Marion. The first such a beautiful upstart – the latter so good, accomplished & truly well-bred.

18th Saturday – I passed the day yesterday with M^{rs} Barnes – We went to see the Exhibition of Paintings, and found it well worth seeing. After that we took a strole with M^r Barnes round the Wharf – and there I think I saw my old torment, the Count! He stared so exceedingly, that both of my companions observed it! What can bring him out here again?

[65] We dined alone; and after dinner, I tried a [illegible word]⁹ paces for M^{rs} Barnes. In the evening, Captⁿ Forth came in & sat some time.

I had a letter from M^{rs} & Anna Welman yesterday – They tell me that W. Archer Jun^r is going to be married to Miss Hortle – and M^r Bicheno to Miss Sorrell. What will M^r Dry say to this arrangement? No doubt there will still be a glass case at the house!

My walk made me feel ill this morning – and I took Laudanum – but in the afternoon Bessie went for a drive with D^r Robertson, and I accompanied them – William too, took his seat by the Doctor.

I received a kind note from M^{rs} Salmon – asking me to go there – which I shall do on my way over to Launceston.

19th Sunday. I went this morning to breakfast with the Barnes' and then on to church with them, to hear M^r Tilley. I do'nt admire his delivery at all – it is too violent altogether.

⁹ Water damage makes this word difficult to read. It could be "love".

20th Monday. This morning we moved into Davey Street – and I came up early, to assist William in putting things to rights. Bessie did not come until the evening – and then [67] remarked that “her room was not settled yet”! Oh! Amiability!

In the evening I gave dear Ada a whipping – and felt so sorry all the time – but it was for coming into the Dining room when I told her not – and this because Bessie always objects to it. I love the little pet so dearly, that I hate to see her vexed – and it always ends in my striking her. Nobody can guess even, how much I love that dog!

I’ve answered M^{rs} Salmon.

21st Tuesday. William & I had such a delightful ride on the sands today. Bessie went out in D^r Robertson’s carriage. All the world was out, for the day was so exceedingly fine.

I received a letter from Baxter, wherein he tells me of a severe fall that he has had, and having in consequence been laid up for some days in his bed. He most certainly have [sic] been miserable, without a soul to do anything for him.

22nd Wednesday – I passed the day with M^{rs} Barnes – and went out shopping. She was purchasing a saddle, bridle, etc – After dinner, we went down to fetch Ada –and I then returned home with the young lady. [67]* A gentleman passed us on the road in a very pretty gig – he seemed to wish very much to stare me out of countenance with his fine eyes – He always does the same when he meets me; and I begin to think it is Count Horst G—’s fetch that is haunting me!

23rd Thursday. This day 10 years I landed in this town, and went to a Fancy Ball at M^r Stephen’s. This morning I go to Government House instead!

M^r C. Hazlewood came to see me this morning, and we had a long chat. He is looking very grave, & not as handsome as in days of yore – but this is always the case with his countrymen. He was telling me that M^{rs} Sorell is at Cawnpore with Major Deare, and has two children. M^{rs} Pringle Stewart is at Bonibox living most disreputably.

At a little before 9 o’clock M^{rs} Barnes called for me to go to his Excellency’s Soirée.

The Mess^{rs} Wilmot received us in the hall – and we next proceeded to the Drawing room, where Sir Eardley met us – He is a fine, gentlemanly old man, but not as much of the “Prince”, as I was given to understand.

Captain Moriarty was there, looking the same as ever.

[68] The room was pleasantly filled – at least I mean quite enough in it to make it pleasant.

Miss Shaw was the prettiest and most ladylike girl in the room – as to Miss Sorell, she looked vulgar almost; and springs about in such style!

Lady Pedder was telling me that Louise Woolrabe is not married, and wishes herself back in this country.

25th Saturday. We called yesterday on M^r Bicheno, and found the dear old gentleman at home. William Kemp went with us for a ride in the Domain; and Bessie took a drive with M^{rs} Victor.

Today at 2 o'clock, we started to M^{rs} Burgess's, there to meet the good folks who were going to the Pic-Nic. Thirty-five were assembled – and we then proceeded on our way – but “the Moor”, whom I was riding, ran away with me, and pulled so terribly, that I thought it better to dismount, and ride the Mare, which I accordingly did.

We all rode like crazy people to Brown's River, about 7 miles from town – and then had luncheon in a shed belonging to a Public House there. The gentlemen then performed sundry daring feats in the way of jumping etc – and after that, we returned home, [69] by moonlight. Mess^{rs} Erskine and Kirwan drank tea with us, accompanied by the better half!

M^r E—e is certainly one of the greatest simpletons I have ever met. M^r Kirwan is Irish – & gentlemanly – but rather quieter than his countrymen generally are.

26th Sunday. I went with William to the Catholic chapel this morning – and heard a very good sermon from the Vicar-general.

M^r Hazlewood & William Kemp dined with us today – It reminds me of the dear old times to see the latter again. I asked William if he did not think him something like M^r Dry? He answered quite indignantly “they are not to be compared”!

28th Tuesday. M^r Hazlewood called this morning, and sat some time. He has never recovered his love for Miss E. D— and I like him all the better for it.

29th I went to call on Martha yesterday, but she was not well enough to be seen – Today we went to a Pic-Nic at Derwent Park – We all collected at the Custom house and had to wait some time there, so I proposed going into the Exhibition – and there I met Martha. She is very thin, and evidently in a weak state. M^r Hazlewood joined our party, and about 1 o'clock [70] we proceeded to the boats. M^{rs} E. Butlan, & Misses Butlan, & Misses Spode – Mess^{rs} Kirwan, Hazlewood, and William with myself, went into one boat. In the other all the ladies were packed – with the Hon^{ble} M^r Hobson!

We got to Derwent Park in excellent time – and saw several gentlemen approaching on horseback. We had luncheon on the grass, under some shady trees – and then the ladies went for a walk. When we joined the “lords of the Universe”, we went up to the house – and there found a Piano, and two very good rooms to dance in.

I think we all enjoyed ourselves pretty well – & returned late in the boats. Poor Miss Spode is so terribly smitten with M^r Hazlewood, that it is quite amusing to see her; and he says he does not understand it at all! Mess^{rs} Hazlewood and Kirwan supped here.

30th Thursday. I sat for a long time with Martha this morning, and heard all the news from dear Woolmers, where I have passed so many happy days.

M^{rs} Barnes called. D^r Robertson came to see Bessie, who is very ill today. M^r Erskine called to ask me to dine there today; but Bessie was too ill to leave. [71]

William went however, and heard several morsels of scandal.

On Monday last, I went to the Theatre with M^r & M^{rs} Barnes. It was altogether better than I had anticipated – and the house was well filled.

31st Friday. I walked out early this morning – and surprised Miss Hodgson, & M^{rs} Barnes in bed. I saw my “Irish friend”, who walked a short distance with me. M^{rs} Erskine called to see how Bessie was – & tells me her sister is quite taken with (not by!) M^r Hazlewood.

1st of February. Saturday – Several persons called today to see Bessie, whom I regret to say is very ill.

2nd Sunday. I went to breakfast with M^{rs} Barnes, & then accompanied them to St David’s church – where I heard an excellent sermon from Bishop Nixon. He has fine language, and voice – but I do’nt exactly like his pronunciation [sic]. I always think of Mr Pittman’s sermons; and they make me dissatisfied with all others.

5th Wednesday. I have not been out much, as I am so anxious to get William’s waistcoat done – yet I have had two nice rides.

[72] This evening we went to hear a Lecture at St David’s church, given by the Bishop. Bessie has not spoken to me for some days – why not, I cannot say. I never met her equal in rudeness, and ill-bred behaviour; yet what other could I expect? I cannot sufficiently lament my darling’s ever having married such a truly worthless woman!

Last Sunday we paid M^r Bicheno a visit, and the good old gentleman asked us to dine with him on the following Sunday.

Thursday we rode to the Governor's garden and eat such quantities of fruit.

Friday, William's Birthday. He is 33 years old today. I had finished his waistcoat to give him, and when I took it to Greig's to get it made up, I found I had worked both sides the same – and so I brought it back, and began away at the other side.

8th Saturday. My eleventh wedding-day! It was on a Saturday too, that we were married.

William gave me four seals that belonged to poor Mama.

M^r Kemp called this morning – and D^r & M^{rs} Lucas with D^r Robertson. M^{rs} Lucas is an immense woman, [73] but very pretty – and her spouse is like Captain Mecham.

M^r Kirwan next made his appearance – and as we were dressed for riding, we said so – and off he went to procure a horse, and ride after us – which he did, and overtook us, on our way to the Springs. We went up there – and saw a fine view. They are 4 miles from Hobart Town, and half way up Mount Wellington. M^r Kirwan dined with us on our return, and paid Bessie such attention to try and ingratiate himself into her good graces.

9th Sunday. The Minerva is in – and I'm afraid almost out again. Mess^{rs} Dry and Scott returned early in the week, and brought me a letter from Baxter.

14th Friday. This morning at 7 o'clock, William & I, accompanied by William Kemp and the "persevering Genius", walked to the New Norfolk Coach Office; and I took my seat inside of the Coach – with M^{rs} Barnes as next door neighbour; and Mess^{rs} Barnes & Burnett for Vis-a-vis.¹⁰ All of us bent on the same errand; that of making ourselves amiable at Sir Eardley [74] Wilmot's dejeuner!

The day was very pleasant, and our horses went along merrily – so that we reached New Norfolk in good time, after passing a vehicle laden with 7 ladies – and poor old M^r Burgess doing escort to them! Alas! what some men have to charge themselves with a good deal! !

We went to M^r Mason's immediately on our arrival at New Norfolk – where I found Mary Welman had just landed from "Epping Forest". She is not half as good looking as Anna – yet is a fine figure; But her hair is so red!

M^{rs} Mason and we two drove up to Sir Eardley's. William & M^r Mason walked.

¹⁰ [Sitting] opposite (French).

We found a goodly company collected, sitting in the Verandah of Government Cottage – and Miss Sorell with her bonnet off, to show her good hair.

The people did nothing but stare at each other – so I walked off with M^{rs} Barnes, to the River; which by the way, is very pretty.

We had luncheon at 2 o'clock in a large tent – and after that, we all walked to [75] the garden – where we eat fruit enormously.

After our return, dancing and singing commenced. Mary has a remarkably fine voice – but not modulated sufficiently to please me.

M^r Kirwan made himself so extremely tiresome in wishing me to dance with him, that I determined on [not] doing so at all – accordingly I had to forego that amusement! Odious creature that he is! And I'm as rude as I well can be – and yet he haunts me!

The party went home at 7 o'clock – and then we dressed, and went to M^{rs} Sharland's house to a party. She looks very young and pretty – but snappish. Her sister is my favourite; and sings so sweetly!

We returned to M^{rs} Mason's at 12 o'clock – after my passing as stupid a day as I remember to have occurred in my existence!

Miss Seccombe had a fall in the Verandah today – owing to M^r Wilmot's placing a chair for her without any seat in it. (She is far from the first of her family, who has fallen through the machinations of Man!) She made a [76] sad exposé, I believe; & only laughed at it – in which her delicate-minded cousin Miss S—I joined at her expense!

15th Saturday – The same party returned in the Coach this morning at 7 o'clock – with the exception of M^r Burnett – whose place was filled by dear William.

We found notes of invitation from M^{rs} Burgess for a dance on Thursday evening – which we accepted.

This evening we dined at M^r M^cLean's – in company with D^{rs} Lucas & Robertson – and M^{rs} Lucas – Mess^{rs} Minache & Bennard. Miss Buckland delighted us with her sweet voice – She is a nice person – and so unaffected with her accomplishments!

We left rather late. M^r & M^{rs} McLean are kind, hospitable persons. D^r Lucas knows my old friend Henry Bird at Ceylon – and says he is married to a nice person, and has three children. His Mother, is married again.

16th Sunday – I did not go to church today – the more shame for me! – But the dissipation, and I [77] may add – Vexation, made me feel poorly. I shall not be annoyed any more tho', from the same cause – as I gave my friend M^r Kirwan to understand in plain terms my extreme dislike to his particular attentions.

Captains Woolley and Rice – with D^r McWharrie dined here today. The former spoke in plain terms of my having made a conquest! If he only knew how I hate now, what I used to like so much – viz making them – why, he would not quiz me about it.

17th Monday – Today we went to the Theatre – Miss Buckland accompanied us. She is a very nice person indeed – quite superior to any of the young ladies here.

M^r Kirwan sat in the box with us – which had at last the effect of sending me to sleep.

18th Tuesday. I rose at my usual time, and tho' certainly disinclined – got up to finish the dear old gentleman's slippers; however, at 8 o'clock I found myself nodding over my work – and I laid down, and fell fast asleep for more than two hours.

[78] I went up to M^{rs} Barnes', and remained until evening.

19th Wednesday. I had a nice ride with William and M^r Wilmot – but I heard something which has made me feel – oh! so very very, unhappy. Why am I what I am?

20th Thursday – M^r Dry paid me a visit this morning – and altho' certainly looking very pale and thin, I do trust he will soon recover – and be as well as ever.

After he left, I went shopping – and William Kemp came with me. We saw M^r Dry again.

In the afternoon we went riding, and returned with Mess^{rs} Wilmot and Bicheno.

23rd Sunday – I drank tea with M^{rs} Barnes last evening, and how she did sing! I feel so very much soothed, if I may use the expression, when I hear such exquisite music!

They both walked home with me – and it was such a lovely night.

This morning I went to church with M^{rs} Erskine, and was disappointed in not hearing the Bishop. I found D^{rs} Robertson and McWharrie here on [79] my return. I retired to my room to read, as dear William was not at all well, and had gone to lie down. Miss Buckland called – and had passed the house without seeing me, when she

spied me in my room! – So she came up, and then William persuaded her to remain to dinner – and we walked home with her by moonlight.

Strange to say, on comparing notes, we had been at her brother's station, on our trip across country.

24th Monday – I rode the Mare at 6 o'clock this morning by myself – and had such a nice ride on the sands.

In the evening the Mess^{rs} Burnett and Dry dined with us – and Willie came in to tea and whist. M^r Dry looks better, but has a nasty cough.

25th Tuesday. I rode into town very early.

I invited myself to M^{rs} Barnes' to coffee and was so delighted to find Mess^{rs} Frazer and Dry come in soon after my arrival. M^r Frazer is a most agreeable person – and clever, I should say. M^r Dry is as ever – only not as strong as when I first knew him – He owns he has led a wild life since our party left; but now [80] I trust he will recover both his health and property.

How much I could write on this subject – but it might be seen and misunderstood more than even there is any occasion for. William walked home with M^r Dry – and I sat up copying “the Favored Guest” for the same person.

26th Wednesday. I rode out early this morning with Clayson, and purchased a pretty teapot for M^{rs} Barnes – which I presented to her, when William and I went to breakfast with her. M^r Frazer sat with us during that meal, and we then went into his garden, and saw all his beautiful flowers. He kindly made up such a large packet of seeds for me.

We walked down together as far as the Freemason's Hotel – where we separated – Mess^{rs} Barnes and Frazer going to their offices – and M^{rs} Barnes and I to the Churchyard, to visit poor M^r Frankland's tomb.

In the afternoon I walked out with Miss Buckland to shop – M^r Bicheno called, and gave me a pretty telescope – Miss Buckland gave me a ring – and when M^r Dry walked home with me, he gave me such a beautiful little candlestick – which I shall preserve to my latest day. William Kemp passed [81] the evening with us – but I ran down to M^{rs} Barnes' for all that, to say Adieu to them – and met them on my return coming to see me.

I retired to my room early – as I felt miserable.

27th Thursday. I started per coach this morning for Launceston – My fellow travellers were M^{rs} Ronald Gunn, Nurse, and two children – M^r O'Connor – and myself and a huge basket of provisions for the youngsters completed the inside luggage. At Campbell Town, M^r O'Connor left us – and his place was filled by D^r Bedford. Our young friends Squallini, with their Nurses, left on the Sand hill.

I took my room in the Cornwall – but unfortunately could not get my old chamber –so had to be placed in a double-bedded room, between two gentlemen's rooms – and so I was locked in.

28th Friday. I this morning called on M^{rs} Henty and M^{rs} C. Henty – likewise on M^{rs} J. Reiby.

In the afternoon, I went out per coach to Longford – I slept at the Inn there, and intend going to Woolmer's tomorrow.

29th Saturday.¹¹ Very early I procured a gig, and proceeded to the Parsonage, where I dismounted, and [82] ran up to M^r Davies' room. He jumped out of bed, and was quite amazed to see me standing at his door. As he promised to drive me over to Woolmers, I dismissed the gig; and went into the garden to see all the improvements. I had not been very long there when Tom Lyttleton made his appearance – but I did not remember him for a short time. He asked me into the house – where I found Captain Smith.

After breakfast, I went to Woolmers with M^r Davies – M^r Archer had gone into Town. – Susan came out – She is much grown – but not at all goodlooking. Miss Cowie was the same as when I left, only wearing caps! D^r Killgower was there – He is something like D^r Mollisson. Annie Hortle is very plain – but appears a nice girl. She is shortly to be married to William Archer – whom I now saw for the first time.

I went into M^{rs} Archer's room to see her – and Tom Lyttleton came in there soon after – and made such a noise; he is a merry, nice fellow – and is I think a spoiled child. His manners are like his father's. Joseph came home in the evening, after we had returned from a long walk to see some horses.

He is goodlooking – and his eyes as gentle as when [83] he was a boy.

30th 2nd [March] Sunday. We, (Susan and I) drove to church – where we found Miss Cowie and Annie before us. The new Church is a large building with a handsome painted window – presented by M^r Reid.

¹¹ This date does not exist – 1845 was not a leap year.

I happened to look up during prayers, and saw my old friends Mess^{rs} G. Airey and Sinclair sitting quite near. The former was accompanied by his wife, who is a ladylike, tall woman – evidently older than her spouse. Mess^{rs} Jocelyn Thomas, Tom, and Captⁿ Smith sat in the pew before me.

I left the church with Tom, and had the pleasure of a chat with, and introduction to, M^{rs} G. Airey. M^r Sinclair was glad to see me – and pressed me very much to go out to Clair-Ville.

As I sat in M^{rs} Archer's carriage, I had little Tommy on my knee – he is a handsome boy – very like William Abbott; but not like his poor father! Louise, is like the Archer family – and a fine child.

I saw M^r Weston. M^r & M^{rs} Archer – and several old acquaintances.

We found on our reaching Woolmers, that Ada had been howling very much – and M^r Archer had been feeding [84] her with biscuits, and got her quiet at last – lying before the Drawing room fire.

M^r & M^{rs} Joseph Archer, M^r & M^{rs} W. Archer, and M^r Weston came over in the afternoon. D^r Killgower too came to dinner.

They have some beautiful paintings in the drawing room – and a fine piano. The Jessamine is grown over the Verandah in such immense quantities, and looks excessively pretty. The garden is not in good order, as the building interferes with it. They are adding three large rooms at the back of the house. They have reading every evening out of the Bible – and sing Psalms for some time, and prayers at night.

3rd Monday. Tom came over before breakfast for me, & soon after, I took leave of my good friends, and set off for the Parsonage. We started for Launceston in a short time. M^r Davies and I in his carriage; Tom followed us on horseback.

Tom drove me down to see M^{rs} Allan – who was much affected at meeting me. They are very poor she says – having lost all by others villainy!

We then went to see M^{rs} C. Friend; She is very stout, but looks well. We next went home. I had a regular levée [85] this morning. Mess^{rs} C. Friend, G. Airey, Sinclair, Tom, Major Welman – and J. Youl.

In the afternoon, M^r Davies took me down to the Hibernia Hotel, to see Maria & M^{rs} Lyttleton, who had just arrived from George Town. They both look very thin – but not altered. I remained there some time, and then came home. M^r Dry called – and

sat a short while, leaving invites for M^r Wilmot, William and M^r Mercer to dine with him.

These gentlemen came in, about 8 o'clock – when I was sent for from M^{rs} Welman's, where I had been drinking tea.

4th Tuesday. Another levée – I went with William in M^r Dry's gig to the Races – before doing so, M^r & M^{rs} Salmon sat for some time with me. All the folks are trying to persuade me to remain until the “Timbo” sails – and how exceedingly my heart inclines to this; yet my Duty will I hope prevail and I may then continue to think myself firm.

The Races are on a new course, and very dusty it is! They are well conducted – and tolerably attended.

M^r Hazlewood, M^r Youl and Tom kindly took William's seat now and then. M^r Dry won two races out of the three – but he does not pocket the money.

I returned home before the Race was finished, and [86] went to see M^{rs} Lyttleton and Maria. The latter has been confined to her bed all day with severe head ache.

5th Wednesday. Last night Mess^{rs} Youl & Tom drank tea with me. William came in before starting for a party at M^{rs} Raven's. I sat up nearly the whole night, it was so hot – and saw some of the dancing party come home at daylight.

William & M^r Hazlewood tell me that poor “brother Dick” was so dreadfully squiff – and made the most desperate love to Miss Swan; which he allows to be the case!

M^r Youl had breakfast with me this morning; and I went again with William to the Races. The Mess^{rs} Arthur were there today – Henry Arthur looks sadly like the remains of a dissipated man. M^r Hazlewood is very shaky today – and wishes he had known that I would have seen him at the Cornwall to tea. He drove me a good deal – and is I'm glad to say coming over to look for a station at Port Fairy.

Tom was wondering what M^r Hazlewood could have to say for so long a time – and was quite amazed at my taking his kindness so coolly.

M^r Dry rode “Advertiser” against “The Stranger”, ridden [86]* by M^r Wilmot. The latter won easily – and rode prettily – poor M^r Dry was too ill – and I understand spat blood after it. How foolish to trifle in that way with his precious life – when he knows how all value him so much!

He won a good race by “Coronet” – which is a noble horse. I went home before the finish – as I was tired. We called on M^{rs} Davies – but they had just left. M^{rs} Reiby too, was from home.

M^r Dry called – for the last time in Launceston – He appears very weak indeed.

Tom came for me to M^{rs} Welman’s, and I went into the Hotel – and we drank tea together – with dear William likewise. They left about 11 o’clock.

6th Thursday. I rose very early – and had a visit from M^r Youl before breakfast. I then went into M^{rs} Welman’s – and whilst there, was sent for to go on board the Minerva – which vessel sails in an hour – I met M^r Wilmot, and told him to let William know, which he immediately did – and the dear fellow came down – he said he would come down after he had had breakfast – so as he was going out, I told him he had not kissed me this morning – which he accordingly [87] did – and this was his last in V. D. Land. I said Adieu to the Welman’s – and Tom walked with me to the boat – where I found Captⁿ Fawthorpe.

And this is the way in which I part from those dearest on earth to me – dearer than all the world beside!! But I must have trials as well as others –and why not?

7th Friday. I might have passed another day and night in Launceston – for here we are in Whirlpool Beach! – Perhaps, it is for the best, and I must try to think so – but it comes very hard to do so.

And now for the Bush! I shall try and save all I can – in fact be almost stingy, yet of what good will it be?

In the afternoon, the Pilot left us, and I sent notes back to William and M^{rs} Barnes by him. How I wonder if ever I shall see Launceston again?

THIRD VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND: 28 NOVEMBER 1846 – 10 FEBRUARY 1847

Notebook 8 (MS. Q181 Item 8): 28 November 1846 – 31 January 1847 (53 – 92)

[53] 28th Saturday. I'm in dear Launceston once more, & still more happiness in view just now! – how every place reminds me of by-gone days! and happiness never to return! Would it be for the best, were it to do so, I wonder?

Mais revenons à nos moutons.¹ Captain Milligan of the good Barque “Winchester” kindly gave me up his cabin, and I came over most comfortably. We left Portland on Tuesday night, and arrived here last night; I have suffered very little comparatively speaking, from sea-sickness, and really do'nt feel much the worse for it.

I wrote to William by the Coach this morning, and he may perchance come over on Monday.

In the double-bedded room, I have a fellow passenger, one [54]² Mistress Athy, niece to M^r Mulgrave, sister to “Royal Charlie”, and a widow lady bent on committing Matrimony if possible. She amused me verily, in telling me of the enormous charges made at the Hotel in Portland! – “Only imagine, said she, charging 2/6 for a bottle of Ale! – a thing we would only pay 1/ for in London! and there they know how to charge too”! She drank two such glasses of brandy & water on board the Vessel before she started, as she would then not require to order anything at the Inn; and as we were coming to the wharf, she believed herself in Venice in a Gondola!! I ordered tea, and she had another glass of brandy & water for 9^d!!

After breakfast nothing would do but I must go and show M^{rs} Athy some sights! I tired her at that tho', and she was glad to come home, the heat being intense, & as the cab was at the door to convey her to her Uncle's, I escaped her!

M^r Dry came to see me; he is the same excellent creature I always knew him, and has not his equal in my eyes in this world! It makes me almost happy to know that from the commencement of our [55] acquaintance, he has known me only the same as I first was – I mean in manner, of course.

1st Tuesday. On Sunday I dined with M^{rs} Welman – she now resides where M^r & M^{rs} Barnes did formerly did [sic], and which “Residence”, the Major considers the first in the Island. When I first went in, they evidently thought I should be thunderstruck with its splendour!

Anna, is pretty; but the color of her hair spoils her in my eyes. Mary, is very showy.

¹ Let's get back to the subject (French).

² Unpaginated in original.

I paid the Countess a visit, who was as usual, very kind and glad to see me; she regrets excessively her loneliness, and will certainly do something rash some of these days. Monday morning I went down to see the Allans and found them not up; I brought the old lady back with me, and she remained until evening when I went as far as the corner of the street with her, and then on to see M^{rs} Priaulx. This little lady looked to me to have an impediment in her speech, owing to some unnatural cause! Emily is grown a nice looking girl with such piercing black eyes.

[56]³ The Coach was laden with passengers, and I suppose it will be worse tomorrow.

I was musing on the “Past, the present, and the Future”, (Good and Gracious God, dare I think of that time?) when M^{rs} Cox came in with a note for me from William; he cannot come over, and I shall not now go to Hobart Town until Wednesday morning. I shall then see all my old friends here, and yet be in time to make my *début* in the Metropolis at M^{rs} Burgess’ dance Thursday Evening.

Mess^{rs} Sinclair, Craufurd, Jones & Milligan paid me visits today – the latter brought his sister-in-law to see me, and she asked me to go with her to the St Andrews Ball, *mais non!*⁴ She looks young as she did when first I saw her – yet she has such an unhappy caste of face.

I went to M^{rs} Cox’s with her, and saw M^{rs} James Lord, who is thinner than she was, and better looking for it.

Wednesday. Yesterday “Cupid” and his wife came into town, accompanied by M^{rs} Reynolds and Miss Cox. [57] They kindly offered to take me to the Ball, and as I should not have gone otherwise. M^{rs} Youl is unlike M^{rs} J. Cox in manner; tho’ resembling her in face. M^{rs} Reynolds was a “Beauty” – and is still very nice looking; her voice and carriage have so much lassitude in them it is almost painful. Miss Cox has much quiet fun about her, and improves on acquaintance.

We dined late, and went to our several rooms to adorn, and I had the landlady’s, with a fine glass in it. I wore black satin, with a handsome plaid scarf, and it looked very nicely. Miss Cox looked ladylike, and well-dressed.

We did not start until 10 o’clock – M^r Joclyn Thomas accompanied us – he is looking as usual.

³ Unpaginated in original.

⁴ But no! (French)

The stewards met us on the steps leading up to M^r Borrodaile's new Store, and escorted us in. "Jock", who had come in the morning with an invitation for me, took me in – and called me "a celestial Rose", which compliment he appeared pleased with.

We were just in time for a Quadrille, and M^r Thomas honored me. There were upwards of 300 present, and many pretty women; but to my taste, Miss C. Reilly was [58] the "Belle" – some differed however, and flattered me with the title. The music was very good, the ladies well-dressed, and altogether it was a well arranged Party. The Supper was good too; and some of the ladies seemed to think so, for I never saw girls eat as they did.

M^r Jones, was the handsomest man there; M^r Dry the most recherché,⁵ the latter is decidedly a male Coquêt, and says something to every girl, in the shape of love! There was one there, an odious looking girl, rejoicing in the name of Anne, or some such name – and had the most disgusting look about her eyes, I ever saw; it said quite plainly, and undisguisedly "C.T.B"!⁶

I had thought of going to Hobart Town by the Coach, but when we got home, they were just putting the horses in, so we went and had coffee instead; after which, Miss Cox and I voted a walk as most agreeable, but finding a gig at the Hotel door, we thought it better to drive. Into the vehicle we got, and I drove up to D^r Browne's nearly, and back again; the affair belonged to M^r J. Thomas, who came out, and held up his hand in a threatening manner at us!

[59] When we returned, we took up M^r Dry as far as the gardens, where we walked a considerable time = M^r Dry went up to the "Cottage" and took out of a gentleman's bed-room, a coat and boot-jack, which he brought into the Arbour in the gardens.

Once more we went home, and M^r Dry then persuaded us to go & lie down in his room = we found M^r R. Craufurd fast asleep on the sofa of the sitting room & M^r Dry put his legs up comfortably on the same.

He then took out some clothes from his drawers, & left us to our glory! We slept about an hour, and then refreshed ourselves again with cold water; but upon our coming out into the sitting room, I ordered some Porter, and M^r Dry, who had then come in, discussed it with us.

⁵ Sought after (French).

⁶ (? Come to bed) has been pencilled in the text. Not AB hand.

We all had breakfast together upstairs, and found D^r Paton's daughters still sitting where we left them, on the steps of Bed-room No. 4! Their Paternal relative being odiously tipsy.

After breakfast, the three ladies went shopping, and I to call on M^{rs} Welman & the girls. I met M^r Allan who told me as news, that by some I was thought the belle of last night's assembly, and had quite smitten M^r J. G — t; I'm disgusted with smiting, and all its evils, and must once more try and think of nothing but self.

The Youls left town about 2 o'clock, just as I returned home. M^r Dry came for his hat, which he had left in the morning, & then went out with a party, to do something or other desperate! There was a Soirée at M^{rs} King's this evening, and several gentlemen remained until late in the rooms below, so I only went to bed late too.

3rd Thursday Morning I left in the Coach for Hobart Town — I was so ill when I reached the place where we breakfasted that I had nearly made up my mind to return. However, I persisted, and with putting up first one leg, then another, I got on pretty well. The rest of the inmates of the Coach were a stout lady, and a little girl of D^r Macdonald's; they went as far as "Ross", and then I was alone.

When I got to Bridg[e]water, M^r Lord procured a cup of coffee for me, and I was then quite fresh again. I took a cab from the Office, and found the good folks [61] at dinner, with two Officers of the "Castor" as their guests. I dressed at once for the Ball at M^{rs} Burgess's, and we all went at about ½ past 9 o'clock.

Bessie is looking better, altho' very thin indeed — she says she is stronger, but has suffered much since I was last here! Louis is grown tall, but thin and delicate looking; Anna-Maria is very active on her legs, but cannot speak — she is nearly as much noticed by her Mama as her brother is: but her Father is as kind to both, as he very well can be. He is looking well, but a little stouter than he was.

We found the rooms at M^{rs} Burgess's crowded by a well-dressed multitude, and numbering upwards of a hundred. She lives where M^r Bicheno did, and the house is prettily furnished.

I knew many who were there, yet saw quantities of strange faces; Miss Sorell is fallen off exceedingly in her appearance, her two front teeth being decayed alters her very much. M^{rs} Booth looked well, and Miss Shaw likewise.

I found one of William's guests, M^r Gennis, R.N. agreeable, and an excellent partner in a dance; we [62] had some of the 96th band — but they did not play as well as the band in Launceston.

We did not leave the party until ½ past 3 o'clock, and were kept waiting for a Cab.

Friday, I took a drive with William and M^r Barnett to Sandy Bay; the former dined with the latter.

The horses "Ranger" and "Danger" are very handsome; more especially the former = they go very well in harness, but pull a little.

Saturday I passed with M^{rs} Barnes, who is kind as ever, and talks of going to England in the "Windermere"; I wish I could go with them. Their garden is in fine order, and cherries & strawberries in abundance. M^r Dumeresq dined with them, and is looking stouter than when I knew him last.

Sunday, Mess^{rs} Simpkinson and Brown (Continental) dined here; I like M^r S — he is so gentlemanly.

Tuesday, we went to hear the 96th Band in the Gardens, where the élite had collected to do the same.

Wednesday, I went up early to M^{rs} Burgess's, to tell her that we could not go to Brown's River with the Pic-nic party, but she would not let me return home, and [63] said there should be room in her voiture⁷ for me. Major Wilmott & M^r Gennis came up at the time, and I was put into the vehicle, without the slightest wish to go. However, after a time I took the seat on the box beside the Driver, M^r Gennis, and we had a pleasant chat over "England & the English".

The party consisted of nearly 30 individuals, some of them of dubious appearance = these I determined on not knowing. M^r Frazer was there, and I always liked him, so we chatted away right merrily. We sauntered down such a steep hill to the seaside, where several gentlemen were sketching; Miss Burgess was the only one who did so, of the female part of the community.

We had a tolerable luncheon spread out by M^{rs} Burgess & myself, on a flat rock; after which we left the "lords of the Creation", and rambled about in every direction.

I started up the hill before the rest of the party, with a stick for my helpmate, and got up pretty well, altho' rather heated. We were just started, as we came, when William drove up, and asked me if I [64] would go home with him; but M^r Gennis said he would not lose the best part of his freight, and so I continued where I was. I was deposited in Davey Street, and the rest of the party went up to M^{rs} Burgess's.

⁷ Vehicle (French).

11th Friday – I passed today with M^{rs} Barnes – it was certainly uncomfortably warm, and she had scarcely any clothes on at all! M^r Frazer came & sat some time with us, as he promised me he would. M^r & M^{rs} J. Dunn too, came to eat cherries in the afternoon, & were caught in a thunder shower.

M^{rs} Burgess wrote to me saying that she would call for me at 4 o'clock in the morning in a tax-cart, to go to "the Springs" – but I declined the honor, it being too early rather.

12th Saturday – In the afternoon M^r Craufurd called having come from Launceston last night; we were just going for a ride – M^{rs} Roberts, William & I. I rode "Ranger", and found him rather giddy, but I've no doubt in a short time he'll know me, and be quieter. We went to look at a Cricket match in the Domain, and called on M^r Simpkinson, who is going over to Port Phillip next week.

[65] All this time I've never once mentioned the sad accident that my valued friend Richard Dry met with the day after I left Launceston. He was leaping a fence, when his horse fell with him, and nearly killed him; his life was quite despaired of at first, but he is now out of danger. I shall not make any remarks on his silly conduct – for I'm told it was at M^{rs} W—d's request he tried the abominable fence; and all appear pretty well aware of their intimacy; at all events, he is fortunate in having Rivals with and — the lady.⁸ I heard a good story about Slippers that disgusted me with the man more than years of dissipation would have done; yet I still love him as I did, and doubt whether his own sisters can love him more purely.

God grant his safe recovery, and speedily; I pray for William and him with the greatest fervour, altho' I cannot do so for myself. I feel as tho' I had wronged my God, if not in deed, in thought - and until I can make up my mind to think & feel differently, I shall not enter His house, or beseech him for myself.

Bessie is jealous of M^{rs} Roberts, and I fear not quite without reason; dear William passes much of [66] his time with her, and I do'nt exactly like her manner with him! I however, told Bessie I thought she had not anything to fear, as I did not imagine she was any other than kind and good-natured.

13th Sunday. William dined with M^r Seymour yesterday, and did not return until 5 o'clock this morning: he came & sat with me some time before going to bed.

⁸ Transcription is accurate.

M^r Bicheno called in the afternoon, and asked us all to go there tomorrow to eat cherries and see his farm. He was quite glad to see me again.

D^r Robertson and M^r Craufurd dined here today – the former offered to lend me a horse whenever I should require one. William, who had [been] out all day, from the time he got up until just before dinner, came in wet with the heavy rain that was falling = he having been busy “picking cherries”! Alas! picking, and stealing is the fashion in these days.

14th Monday. We had very heavy rain yesterday and last night, and it continues slightly today; I had intended returning visits today, but suppose the weather will prevent me. I’m sitting by a fire, shivering, and Bessie wo’nt come near it, but fancies remaining in the [67] other room, where I’m sure she must be nearly perished with the cold.

I wrote to Harriet by the “Psyche” this month.

M^r Frederick Jones, is a name I must not forget – he is going over to Sydney in the Steamer, but I hope to meet him again some of these days.

16th Wednesday. M^r Craufurd called here this morning, and walked up with me to M^{rs} Barnes and M^{rs} Burgess’s; the latter had a great deal to say on “Pic-nics in general, and her last one in particular, and is very disgusted with what the good folks say touching these parties. We had only just returned, when a tremendous fall of hail and rain came on, so I was very fortunate in being out of it.

Mess^{rs} Ebden & Powlett are here = and I see M^r H. Massie’s name, as being in Launceston; I would much like to see the latter.

In the afternoon I was so pained with my heart, that I took turpentine, which relieved me a great deal. M^r Craufurd dined with us. He has had money sent him to start afresh, and yet he is spending it in trifles, and making enemies [68] instead of friends, of his brother and other relatives, and in fact, not behaving honestly to his Father! He must go home, or he will never do any good.

Hearing of M^r Ebden reminds me of the excellent story of the person who went to claim his Hospitality, and was sent to a cottage that he had built on purpose for strangers to remain in. The person in question felt himself aggrieved because not admitted into M^r Ebden’s own house and Society, altho’ he received every attention, = and in the morning when he started he left a note with the servant for his Master, and enclosed a £1. M^r Ebden wrote in answer, that he had received the money, and forwarded it to the Lunatic Assylum!

M^r Dry is recovered sufficiently to go to Quamby, so he'll soon be all right again
I trust in God.

I wrote to M^r Bicheno this morning.

Poor Miss Buckland has had a severe attack of cholera, but is recovering.

19th Saturday – On Thursday, M^r Powlett came up in the morning and sat some time with me: we spoke of “old times”, “old friends”, and passed quite a pleasant [69] three hours. He speaks kindly of M^{rs} Wickham, and seems to like her; says “she was and is, more sinned against than sinning”, and in fact talks of her as a gentleman should! She is coming over to V. D. Land, to turn all the good folks brains.

Bessie did not go out, so William, Louis and I went to the “Ferry” for a drive = it was as well that no one else was with us, as the horses were very troublesome.

Friday, I went up in the morning and sat with M^{rs} Smith until 3 o'clock, when William came up and said he was going out to drive = so I returned home with M^{rs} Campbell.

We had not gone far when we met M^r Craufurd walking up, and it appeared Bessie had asked him to go with her for a drive, thinking no doubt that I should be away all day.

William dined at the Mess, and returned very late.
Today M^{rs} Roberts accompanied William and I for a ride = “Ranger” carried me better than last time, but requires such a steady and continued pull on his mouth; in fact he has no mouth, and harness does not improve it. Bessie, who cannot be amiable for any length of time, has begun again with her remarks; but this time, she finds her match, and I give her as good as she sends.

The country about is looking very pretty and green; the scenery is certainly beautiful, and I often wish I could remain in this country. The Society seems pretty good, if it were not for the vile system of back-biting that is carried on; but nothing else can be expected from persons who sit at home doing nothing, and listening & responding to all kinds of scandal.

I am reading M^r Latrobe's works on America; of course it is the fashion now. I've only seen him once since I came over.

Miss Sorell, the nine days talk, is gone over to stay at George Town with M^{rs} Montague = I pity the girl very much for some reasons, not having a Mother, for instance – but think her to blame in many things. She is very passionate in every way I should say, and from being “behind the scenes” in a few instances I perhaps feel

harshly; but can I blame her, (if [71] she love the person) for doing what I would feel an inclination to do in the same case? It would be well indeed if we could judge others as we do ourselves. What would I give to have Marion's perfectly Christian disposition!

The weather is very strange for this time of the year, and I feel the cold so excessively; it is no doubt from being in so warm a country, and indulging in fires to the extent we do in the bush.

Dear, Dear Ada! how I long to see her again = I often fancy I hear her whine, and oh! how I wish I had brought her with me! I never will leave her again, never! She is the only thing that loves me truly and sincerely, I do think.

D^r Robertson still continues "the standing dish" here with Bessie; I think it is because he is continually grumbling, and abusing others.

21st Monday. I went up early to sit with M^{rs} Roberts, and remained there until past 1 o'clock. Just as I was at the house, I met M^{rs} & Miss Burgess and Miss Scott; they had come to invite me to go on board of H.M.S. Castor, and urged me so strongly, that I [72] made some few alterations in my dress, and went. Captain Graham came off for us, and made himself very amiable, altho' he does dislike ladies so much. When we reached the Vessel, we found about 150 persons on board; M^r Gennis took me into his safe keeping, and we strayed together, over every part of the Ship = she is in beautiful order, and is ready for what she will I fear soon encounter again, an Engagement with the New Zealanders.

We at length, found our way into the Gun Room, where a nice déjeunè⁹ was spread, and many of the good folks enjoying it. M^r Gennis' cabin is quite perfection, with its toilette, beautiful paintings, etc. Emma was right in her choice I think, for he is so very gentlemanly, and I should say kind-hearted when you know him. He kept every now and then turning to me and saying "You must excuse my being so perpetually with you, and paying you such marked attention, but I cannot help it, you remind me of the Bremers"!

Dancing commenced, and was carried on with spirit; the ladies looked all amiability – the [73] gentlemen all life! – I was too tired to dance much, but was taken up with a new Chinese musical instrument which one of the men played very well. It is a common piece of wood, with thin strings nailed across – and upon this the man played

⁹ Lunch (French).

with two pieces of whalebone, turned up at the end – – [AB includes her drawing of the instrument which resembles a zither] It is remarkably ingenious.

I wrote a note to Emma, and saw one of her's to M^r Gennis.

All pleasures must end – so this one did at ½ past 6 o'clock, when we commenced our retreat from this “watery elysium”; Captain Graham asked me how high I would wish to go in the chair? I answered “Up to the Moon”! “Hoist away, my men”, said M^r Gennis = and amidst the looks of horror, mirth, and the Boatswain's whistle, I was taken up to the Main-yard-arm! I could see all the shipping in the Harbour, and the Town, to great advantage, and was sorry to come down so soon!

We went ashore with Mess^{rs} Kay & Mackenzie, the latter returning to the vessel. William had gone to Oatlands in the morning, and [74] is to return by the mail tomorrow morning.

22nd Tuesday. We took a drive in the afternoon, and remained a little time outside the Government Gardens, where the Band was playing = Mess^{rs} Bicheno, Gennis, Smith & Uniack joined us for a time.

We returned home, and William & I walked down to dine at M^{rs} Maclean's = where we found M^r and M^{rs} E. Bedford, M^r & M^{rs} Barnes, Major Wilmot, Captain Jones, Mess^{rs} Mackenzie, Montague, and one of the “Castor” – name unknown.

It was a pleasant party, and Miss Buckland made herself more amiable than M^{rs} Barnes in kindly playing & singing to us. She has a sweet, mellow voice, but is in not over good health, I think.

We left early, as poor William was tired. We found Bessie sitting up, as she said Louis was ill, and she had had D^r MacWharrie here to see him. The fact is, the child had swallowed something in too hasty a way, and it had hurt his chest.

23rd Wednesday – I walked up to sit with M^{rs} Smith this morning, whom I learned last night, had had a son; she is wonderfully well, and the baby is very [75] large & strong. M^r Smith is from home.

24th Thursday. William and I dined with M^r & M^{rs} Hamilton Hart, where we found collected M^r & M^{rs} Maclean & their son, an Officer in the 11th, Mess^{rs} Powlett, Frazer & Brown. M^{rs} Hart is pretty, lively, and ladylike, without affectation. She has two nice little girls, and three, or four boys – but the youngest is such a noble-looking fellow, and I'm told a great pet of M^r Dry's.

We did not remain late, and were accompanied on our way home by Mess^{rs} Brown & Frazer. I do like the quiet fascinating manners of the latter – and I think he

rather favors my innumerable faults, as he so frequently says with earnestness, “How I wish you were going home in the Calcutta”! He asked us up to his house tomorrow, to eat cherries, and have a chat.

25th Friday and Christmas day. We walked up to our friend’s at 1 o’clock, where we found him awaiting us, we saw all the lions! Dogs , Parrots, flowers, paintings etc – procured quantities of cuttings, and he gave me a Heliotrope and large Fushcia.

[76] We remained there until 3 o’clock, when he walked down with us as far as the Corner street.

There is such a chill in the house, it is fearful – come in, in whatever humor you will – your spirits are dampened by that intolerable woman, Bessie!

I do pity William from my soul, and wonder at his forbearance & kindness almost.

Christmas is colder in some respects at home, but in others I’ll defy it to be! – D^r Robertson, as usual, dined here, and he and Bessie talked away to themselves and their own entire satisfaction.

26th Saturday – I went round to M^{rs} Buckland’s, and such a treat in the music way with her daughter. In the afternoon, William and I went round to see M^{rs} Burnett; but she was ill, so I only saw her daughter, who appears agreeable. I then went up to see M^{rs} Smith, and found her very well, considering.

I am reading Eugene Sue “Matilda”, and like it better than the “Mysteries of Paris” – it is in higher life. M^r Craufurd called today , but the ordinary “not at home” was given, and the poor fellow went away, [77] thinking no doubt that I gave the word.

On Monday, I believe, we go to Jerusalem – I’d go to Jericho, to avoid my amiable sister-in-law!

27th Sunday – We went up to see M^r Frazer, and I then continued my strole to M^{rs} Smith’s, to see her & the little one.

28th Monday. We left town at 1 o’clock for Jerusalem, after having a visit from Miss Buckland, who sat with me during breakfast.

We drove to Campagna, M^r Smith’s estate, and took our saddles with us. We found the horses very fiery, and troublesome, and the day oppressive! M^{rs} Smith is a native of St Dominique, and speaks quite with a pretty foreign accent; is languid, kind and hospitable. Miss Smith is 16 – nice looking, and agreeable, altho’ not pretty. M^r F. Smith, the Barrister was at home, and one forgets his ugly face, in his pleasing manner.

After dinner, we mounted our horses, and M^r F. Smith took us a short road to our track; It was a pleasant evening, and we took our time = we got to Jerusalem at ½ past 8

o'clock. The township [78] is prettily situated; it is merely a village: The Inn is clean & comfortable. After a substantial meal, we took up some books to read, and soon after 10 o'clock, retired to roost.

29th Tuesday. At 1 o'clock, we again mounted our horses for Campagna = "Ranger" begins to know me, and be more tractable; he is a noble horse certainly, and far easier to ride than my pet. We had exactly an hour and ½ to go the 14 miles, so we did it in 5 minutes under the time.

M^r Smith was at home, and hospitality seems his virtue, as well as his wife's. There were two strangers there, Mess^{rs} Moore, who after dinner betook themselves to their steeds, and vanished! One M^{rs} Goldie, or some such name came to call on M^{rs} Smith with her 4 children; she is loquacious = and my mischievous brother amused himself by commencing an argument, which they both kept up with spirit.

We left our Kind Entertainers at a little to 7 o'clock, after receiving their invite to go again & see them. I drove all the way, and William says in good style = we passed Richmond, where Major Shaw [79] and his family reside = M^r Gregson's, and several other pretty houses; the evening was delicious, the horses in excellent spirits, ourselves much the same, and we made our way well! William was saying to me "I'm always happy with you", at the same time he put his arm round my waist, and I turned my face round for a kiss! - I espied a "Padre" just inside a paddock, and he must have been rather entertained with the scene surely, as he would not understand our relationship.

An accident nearly happened to us at the "Ferry"; – it was dark, and the men had not put the reins rightly over "Ranger" = so at starting, we ran round into a Cab, which stopped us fortunately. After that, all went rightly until we reached town, where I gave up the reins.

Bessie has been suffering from face ache, but could not refrain from some cutting remarks on M^r Craufurd, said to be M^{rs} Victor's! I found a book from the said gentleman, with a card telling me of his departure tomorrow morning by the Coach, and saying how sorry h e was not to have seen me before he left.

[80] 30th Wednesday – Miss Buckland & M^r H. Maclean came up whilst we were at breakfast, and sat here until it was time to go to M^r White's Pic-nic down the River; We were called upon by M^{rs} Burgess, who drove us to Mr Butler's gate, where Miss

Burgess & I got out and walked, as the voiture¹⁰ was sadly crowded, and I hate being in the way.

We got down in good time to the wharf, and found about 40 persons collected – the third of whom I did not, nor ever intended, to know. The Steamer soon got under weigh, the folks began to smile, and “off she ~~went~~ goes^[”]” was the word. We met the “Lady Franklin” coming in from Norfolk Island. The day was fine, and the scenery romantic on the one side, (to our Right.) We passed the “Heads”, when some became very sick! I only felt squeamish, and talked it off with Miss Burgess, who is really an agreeable girl.

When we reached the “Huon river”, we landed, & sauntered about for some time = jumped two or three fences, and then sat down on the beach to talk over the affairs of state. M^r H. Maclean was [81] led to make a confession, and wondered afterwards how he came to do so; he is fond of Launceston, so am I, so we soon were quite at home.

The dinner was excellent – champagne flying about in fine style! all seemed communicative – and when the deck was cleared for “Action”, it commenced in the “Polka” – “wind and limb”, instead of Gunpowder and grape shot! – eyes brightened, and one or two parties seemed quite happy.

Miss Scott victimized an unfortunate named Stevenson who followed her about like a little spaniel = I think the attraction was mutual.

Dancing & singing was carried on with spirit. One of the Musicians sang some sentimental ditties, entitled “If she be not Kind to me”, “I must have loved thee” etc in the most pathetic manner, and looked at M^{rs} Webb in a ravenous way! She was busy performing sundry pinches on M^r White’s arms & legs, and too much engrossed to reply to the songster!

We got to Hobart Town at nearly 9 o’clock, and went ashore at the Wharf, after being well pleased with the day’s entertainment. Miss Buckland went [82] off with M^r Mirac – I took dear William’s arm, and Major Wilmott accompanied us as far as the “Private Secretary’s” cottage. Poor Sir Eardley Wilmott is very ill, and heart-broken, and they think he will never survive to go to England.

We got a Cab, and drove home, where I was glad to get to – being tired with driving yesterday, and the heat.

¹⁰ Vehicle (French).

31st Thursday – Miss Buckland came down early, and we went round to her Mother’s, where we had music and ~~converzazione~~ chat until after 1 o’clock – At 5, we took a drive to the “Ferry”, and returned to dinner; after which, I commenced making jam: I had accomplished this nearly, when I fainted, & Robert finished it for me.

William had gone up to D^r Robertson’s, and did not return until after 11 – he then assisted Robert to make the jelly, and it was such fun to hear him talking away, in high glee, with a bottle of sherry on Board!

He came up to wish me all the “compliments of the Season” and to say that I was the first he had done [83] so to! Bless him! he loves me dearly, and deserves all the affection I have for him.

I had been talking of my early friend, Richard Dry today, and thinking still more of him. His name is the last I’ll write on the finishing of /46 – May the Almighty bless and protect him! – I feel so fond of him when I give myself time to think of it; and am so happy to tell the whole world how I have loved him, and how much I still do! Time will never alter me, whatever may become of me – High, low, rich or poor – Richard will for ever remain in my heart.

Hobart Town –

31st December 1846.

[84] 1st of January 1847

Friday. I have just received a note from Miss Buckland, enclosing me an invite from M^{rs} Booth to a Quadrille party on Monday next; and wishing me many happy returns of the Season! Alas! I always dread to look forward to what may become of me in the foregoing years – What Misery, I may still have to endure – and no redress but in — Oh! I’m writing too much of my thoughts – Black and white tho’ they be, I don’t wish them to be read.

I yesterday began the Braces, and think they will be pretty when finished. Today there is a dinner party here – I’m tired & ill, so I shall put this away.

2nd Saturday. Yesterday the Mess^{rs} Maclean, Frazer, Brown and E. Butler dined here. I liked the party, especially M^r Frazer & H. Maclean. A hand at whist was made up, and those not playing, chatted away until a late hour.

4th Monday. I have written to Harriet by the “Calcutta” – and to Baxter likewise.

Miss Buckland & I have been together all the [85] morning, and paid M^{rs} Green the Dress-maker a visit amongst other things.

We went for a drive in the afternoon, as usual. We are to go to M^{rs} Booth's to a Quadrille this evening, in company with Miss Buckland and M^r H. Maclean.

5th Tuesday. We went to M^{rs} Booth's yesterday evening, and I enjoyed the party more than any one I've been at over here; there were about 30 persons, and all seemed disposed to be agreeable and merry! I victimized D^r M—y by making him dance and talk = he certainly improved rapidly under my tuition, and said most amusing things, more especially so, as he is a "Woman-hater", and so the thing is a Novelty to him. Young M^r Maclean who is really a nice gentlemanly person, amused himself watching the way in which I managed to keep two such different men as the Doctor and Captain P. Rice in my train: = he says they both watched every movement that I made, and were at last brought to a stand still!

M^{rs} Booth was the Belle – she is a chatty person, [86] and makes everybody at home with her.

We kept up the Party until after 3 o'clock, when we went into supper a second time, and then we got into the Cab with Miss Buckland, M^{rs} Agnew, (a young wife) D^r Agnew, D^r Macwharry and M^r Maclean. The latter bet me he would run home as fast as we would drive – and he won it, as we had to put M^{rs} Agnew down at her house. He came & sat with William & I and had some soda water after his walk; he went by the Coach this morning to Launceston.

In the afternoon I drove to the Government Gardens to hear the Band = and saw a few persons there, amongst others William Kemp and M^r Frazer. The latter intends calling on me on Friday to say Adieu.

7th Thursday – I received a letter from M^r Wilson yesterday, enclosing £5 – and a commission to get his wife a ring. I called for M^r Learmonth's, which is very pretty. In the afternoon we went for a drive, and William passed the evening at M^r Brown's. [87] 19th Tuesday. Only a fortnight elapsed without my writing in this book = since when, I've been to New Norfolk (this day week by the bye,) in company with Miss Buckland and a Captain Goldsmith of the "Rattler"; I drove all the way there to the amusement of the persons driven.

We breakfasted at M^{rs} Sharland's: she is a pretty little wayward thing, and looks so young to have seven children! Three of the Misses Shaw are staying with their sister, and are ladylike, nice girls. The eldest will in all probability become M^{rs} Robertson, and in such case – I pity her.

After luncheon, we rode to see M^r Sharland's hop-garden; it is very pretty, to see the hops in the stage they are now in, and there appears to be a good crop this season.

We visited M^{rs} Meyer on our way, and found her busy "setting her house in order", after a three months visit to M^{rs} Latrobe.

Our day passed pleasantly, and in an English way – I mean working, talking, music etc. occupied our time, – and after passing a pleasant day, we [85] started at ½ past 10 o'clock, to return to Hobarton. It was a starlight, fine night, the horses travelled very well considering their "Youth & inexperience", and we reached home in tolerable time.

How singularly one's thoughts roam, after being all day in society – and we suddenly start on such a night by ourselves almost! We wrap ourselves up, in shawls & ideas, and from being all life and amusement, we become nearly speechless!

It appeared so strange to me, that in a penal Colony, with all descriptions of renegades around us, we travelled our 22 miles on this fine night and only met 2 men the whole time! This too, the land of Bushrangers! The fact is, these Vagabonds are too cowardly to come out at night, and only rob one by daylight!

Wednesday, Miss Buckland came with me to choose two rings for Mr & M^{rs} Wilson, which I think are pretty; We did a little shopping, and returned home, fagged with the heat & walking. Captain Percy Rice was here when I reached, and had brought me some flowers, according to promise.

[89] Thursday, D^r Agnew and Macwharrie came to take the bump (of destructiveness) out of my head; it was great pain for a second or two, and made me faint, but D^r Macwharrie was very quick and kind. I remained two days in bed, and am still weak from the effects of it.

This afternoon we went to hear the Band in the Gardens, and found a good many persons there. Miss Burgess was telling me that M^{rs} Freeman wished so much to see me, and I shall try and go this week to Brown's River.

M^{rs} Cumberland explained to me that she had called some weeks back, and did not think I knew it. (True.)

Bessie gave me two pins for my hair, which are pretty – and wonderful to [sic] her to do so!

Last week we went for a ride to see a race between "Madame Vestris" and "Bacchus", merely to try the latter's speed; He won, but not very much. The mare is a sweet thing, 15 years old, and takes a fence in good style. M^r G. Cumberland was riding her, & in going over the first fence, she lighted him on [90] his head; he was soon up again, and

over another higher place. The Colonel, D^r Delisle, William, M^r Kemp, M^r Uniack & myself were the lookers-on.

I sat with M^{rs} Maclean some time this morning, and like her better each time I see her.

Miss Buckland was with me some time this morning, and lent me a music book. She was telling me that M^{rs} Secombe had given it – to be understood I was not visited on the Launceston side, when I lived there! – what an odious fib!

M^{rs} Montague has called twice, and appears anxious to know me – I can easily see why! but I do'nt tell my mind to strangers!

Miss Sorell, it appears before she engaged herself to M^r Chester Wilmot, wrote to ask Richard if he considered himself engaged to her? He wrote in answer (so I hear from Miss Sorell) that he should never marry – as he could not love! Ah! yes, he says truly, he is enfin a Roué of the most heartless description – a seducer, a man who ruins women's honor, happiness, eternal welfare! – And for this man I would have given my life, every hope of [91] the future! and still would – altho' my esteem is gone – and he may marry now, if he likes; & may his wife be to him, what he has caused so many to be to their husbands. Before leaving, I'll write to him, and say what I've heard, and what I know! I have power over him, and may it be used as it always was, to his true happiness.

I heard from M^r Craufurd today, and I think I have written him an answer, he'll not admire.

31st Sunday. How idle I've been in never writing in this book for so long a time, and yet I've had much to put in it of all sorts!

Firstly then: the day after Annie's birthday, I had three more bumps, or lumps taken out of my head, and a most painful operation it was = but I did not even moan, which I consider tolerable behaviour. D^r Macwharrie was very kind in not hurting me more than he could help; and I shall not easily forget him for his attention to me. We went out to Newtown last week, and I drove William there, and remained myself at M^{rs} Brock's [92] until he should return from the Orphan School. When he did so, he was accompanied by D^r Morris R.N. and as he intended going into town with us, I gave him a seat by me in the front of the carriage; – he was horrified, when he saw me take the reins, and said “Surely you do'nt drive these wild animals?” Seeing him in a fright, I let no opportunity pass of turning the corners sharply and in fact, making the poor man considerably miserable! We chatted as we went along, and he kept on wondering at

what he was pleased to term my expert driving. After setting him down, we went to D^r Robertson's to call on M^{rs} Sharland who was in town, and then home.

William said "I shall come and call on you D^r Morris" – "Oh!" said he, if you do'nt call on me, I shall on your sister, for I never enjoyed a drive as much, as the one she gave me"! Accordingly, as I was going down to M^{rs} Barnes' in the afternoon, I met my new acquaintance coming to pay his devoirs. – I must close this, and commence a new book.

A M Baxter

Hobart Town.

Notebook 9(MS. Q181 Item 9): 7 February 1847 (1 – 6)

Annie Maria Baxter

Longford Parsonage

7th Feb^r 1847.

[1] 7th of February – Sunday. I commence my journal at the Parsonage, where I arrived yesterday morning; but I must go back to tell of my leaving Hobart Town.

On Thursday I heard of the “Minerva” being in Launceston, and being informed at the same time that she would leave on the Monday following, I made up my mind to come over on Friday by the Mail.

William, the dear fellow, was quite angry at my going so soon, and leaving whilst in such bad health = D^r Macwharrie urged me most strenuously not to go, and said indeed, that it was not right my doing so; however, as I know what M^r B— is, and that M^r Williams is still at Yambuck, I think it but right to go. God help me when I get there!

I started then on Friday evening, after sending back “Evening parties” and a gold pencil-case; William took me in a Cab to the Coach, and I left Hobart Town with much regret, for I’ve experienced kindness from many persons there.

Three gentlemen were my travelling companions; [2] and were good enough to go outside the greater part of the time, notwithstanding which, I was very fagged when I reached Perth on Saturday morning.

M^r & M^{rs} Youl were at George Town, so I could not go there, accordingly I went to see Ellen Stackhouse, & had breakfast with her, after which they lent me a shocking Man & gig, to take me to Longford = very kind in them, and which was rather a benefit to me, as I had lost £4-15-3!

M^r Stackhouse I saw for the first time; he is tall, very thin, but good-looking – with fine dark eyes, over which are spectacles. Ellen is considerably thinner, and very old looking.

Longford is much improved, and much enlarged; the country is very pretty about there. M^r Davies came to meet me at the door, and Maria close behind him. They were kind as ever, and petted me as usual. Rowley, is grown a fine boy, and like Tom Lyttleton; Annie, the eldest girl is the image of M^r Davies, and rather spoiled I fancy.

Emma, the youngest, is a perfect fatty, with fine dark blue eyes. Maria seems in far stronger health than formerly, and is just as happy as ever. M^{rs} Lyttleton is looking very well, altho' she has evidently suffered mentally [3] and is more subdued than ever; her's is a sweet disposition and character = so retiring, meek, and truly amiable. She was telling me much of her anxieties respecting Tom, which I trust may in some measure prove vain. He is still in Sydney, but will return directly; he'll be sadly vexed at not seeing me this time.

On Sunday I went to church at Longford, and heard M^r Davies preach = he is improved in his delivery; it was communion day, and all nearly remained in to it but me. Joseph Archer was there, and he and I had a long chat outside the church before the rest of the congregation came out.

In the afternoon, we drove over to Woolmers to see M^r Archer, whom I found looking very pale & ill, but in good spirits at seeing me; he is enormously stout, which must be unhealthy, and his breath is much affected by it. Woolmers is such a beautiful place now, the addition to it, is such an improvement: the dining room in particular is very pretty, and the old house is all in bed rooms, so nicely fitted up.

M^{rs} Archer had gone to Mona Vale, to be with Martha during her confinement, but a young gentleman had made his appearance prior to his Grandmama's [4] arrival. Susan, came in some time after we had been there escorted by her Intended, D^r Kilgour who by the bye dined at the Parsonage on Saturday; he is to be married in March, and live in the township of Longford.

I was so sorry to say adieu to M^r Archer, for it is unlikely we shall ever meet again in this, or the next World! He, is so good, charitable, and every way worthy of Heaven – if we may judge.¹¹

We drove on to Church; and after that, Joseph came and sat with me until prayers were read. He is a nice person, and is a general favorite.

On Monday morning, we had breakfast early, and started for Launceston soon after; D^r Kilgour accompanied us. M^r Jell, a very good-tempered looking clergyman came in to breakfast; he is Warden of the College, and engaged to Sir John Franklin's daughter.

Bidding adieu to M^r Davies, we took our departure for Launceston; Maria, and her kind Mother taking me into town. It was excessively warm – strikingly so, after

¹¹ "If so? why the previous comment" has been written in the same hand as the inscription at the beginning of notebook 9. (See "Description of Notebooks".)

Hobart Town! we got into Launceston about 11 o'clock tho', and [5] my two friends went to pay M^{rs} T. Reiby a visit, and then returned, and sat with me until 2 o'clock; we then parted.

Whilst Maria was sitting with me, M^r Dry came in, and altho' very shocked at his appearance, (for how ill he looks, poor soul!) I was very cool; he evidently observed it, and came afterwards with some of M^{rs} Harrison's wedding cake, & asked me what was the matter with me?

I told him – and we had quite a tiff! Poor fellow! I was very wrong and wicked, to pain so good, so kind a heart! And I most firmly believe what he asserted – “You have believed, and taken the lie of the slanderer”! – Yes! some persons take a pleasure in coining fabrications to make discord.

I went after an early dinner to sit with M^{rs} Henty, and found the dear old lady looking so well. After leaving her, I took tea with M^{rs} Welman; the girls were so glad to see me! but somehow, I always mistrust red-haired persons – especially females. The Major is so truly disgusting! and positively said that if he had been my husband, I should have had [6] a large family! horrible man! how I hated his insinuations. Anthony walked home with me, which spared me his brother's polite attentions. I went into M^r & M^{rs} Youl's room, (they having arrived from George Town in the afternoon,) and found M^r Dry with them; I did not sit long, but said Good-Night to all three – and went to my own rooms.

I sent letters to William, D^r Macwharrie, and Miss Buckland by M^r Dry, who started on Tuesday morning for Hobart Town.

On that day, I had visits from a good many persons, amongst others D^r Robertson, & Mess^{rs} H. Maclean & Craufurd. M^{rs} Cox sat with me whilst at dinner, and told me her grievances respecting M^{rs} J. Stevens behaviour! I felt for her, for a Mother must bitterly lament any coldness in a child.

I did not leave Launceston until Wednesday morning, when, just as I was getting my breakfast Captain Fawthrop let me know that he was waiting on the Wharf for me; so after swallowing a hasty breakfast, away I went, and actually found I had been nearly left behind, as the Vessel was some way down the River.

[7] We took in M^{rs} A. Campbell & child, Apples innumerable, and a Pilot somewhere down the River; anchored all night in the Tamar – and on Thursday Morning we were away on “the stormy deep”!

FOURTH VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND: 26 JULY 1848 – 18 FEBRUARY 1849

Notebook 10 (MS. Q181 Item 10): 26 July 1848 – 8 December (116 – 275)

[116] Wednesday night. Me voici,¹ sitting in my old room at the Cornwall Hotel after a very short, but boisterous passage across the Straits! I'm fairly tired, not having taken off my clothes since Sunday morning, until [117] today = and I really began to feel uneasy, to say the least of it.

What a delightful morning it was yesterday when we were coming up the Tamar! everything looked so sunny and smiling! I don't expect I shall stay long on the other side of the Island, for I understand from Col. Cumberland that Bessie is well again; and the sole reason that brought me over, was to nurse her, if she required it = and I know that we shall not agree any time.

Few persons would have come over in that odious little Vessel, with not another soul to speak to, unable even to take off my clothes and by so doing ruin my health – and this for a person who is, and always has been, so extremely pointed in her vulgarity to me.

28th Friday – I determined on remaining in Launceston until today, but intended starting by this morning's coach; it however happened that I was called too late, and "not ready" was placed to my name, & the coach went without [118] me. I this evening go by the Mail.

29th Saturday. Fortunately for me, I had no fellow-passengers in the Mail from Campbell Town, so Ada & I were very snug.

On Thursday morning, I was so terribly fatigued that I remained in a comfortable bed until 10 o' clock, and should not then have got up I believe, but for my pet, who lying in the corner of the room, did not feel as luxuriously disposed as myself!

What a blessing is a soft couch to one who is wearied in body & mind! I would canonize the man who first invented one – He at least deserved a good one himself always – & whatever else he wished for in a small way.

Well then here I was in my room writing, when I espied James Youl drive up, & he very soon took up his quarters in my sitting room. He is looking as usual, and kind as usual!

¹ Well here I am (French).

M^r Dry is in Hobart Town, so I presume I' m not to have the pleasure of seeing him again this [119] visit to V. D. Land, as of course when I go over to Hobart Town he will return here.

M^{rs} Welman & Mary came down to see me, and invited me to dine with them today. – Mary is a beautiful figure, but has a coarse face, & rather noisy voice.

William Welman came down for me, & I walked up with him; on my way there, I called in to see M^{rs} C. Henty, and found my old friend M^{rs} Barnes there too: this was a pleasure I had not anticipated, as she is living out of town, & it was so completely a chance.

She looks exactly as she did, only stouter and better; and I was amused at her saying to M^{rs} Henty “Is she not exactly the same as ever, only more melancholy looking”? This struck a chord that neither of my companions thought of.

M^{rs} C Henty is enormously stout, and is not looking healthy – she wishes me to go and see her on my return.

The next event was the horror of a Major [120] trying to kiss me! How I detest to be hugged by old men I do'nt like = and he is such a nasty person!

I left at 9 o'clock, as I intended going by the morning coach. Mary sang for me, but there is a roughness in her tones that is displeasing to my ear, as I love sweetness in any voice, especially in a Woman's. Caroline is a fine figure, but her nose spoils her face, it is so immense.

On Friday morning M^r Davies & Tom came into town; I was so glad to see them – and actually gave the latter a kiss, en présence² of James Youl. M^r Davies wished me to go to the Plains with them, but I could not, so I've promised to go and stay with them soon. Poor Tom I'm afraid has been dissipating since I left, he looks so bloated – and his hand shook so much after I had said “how do you do” to him! I told him so, but he gave another reason for it.

M^r Youl left just before I did, and Tom & I [121] had luncheon together. Soon after which I got ready to start per Mail: We walked to M^{rs} Cox's and I got into the Coach, when I had to get out again for Miss Ada, who immediately she lost sight of me, ran off as quickly as possible, up one street, down another like a hare! I whistled, Tom ran, M^{rs} Cox laughed, all the folks stared! But I stood my ground, and at last the poor thing caught sight of me & ran into an Inn, where I pursued & caught her; we

² In the presence of (French).

then all went to the Coach, which had been standing at the corner of a street waiting for me. In we got, & I said Adieu to Tom, (who had made himself very warm in the chase!) and away we went. Soon after we got in, (Ada & I) the coach stopped for Bishop Wilson & Father ~~Munsp~~ Butler = these two worthies are evidently fond of “creature comforts”, and reckon amongst these, the power of stretching out their legs! Accordingly Monsieur L’Eveque said to his Vis-a-vis³ “Do you like your legs apart or close”? Le bonpere⁴ [122] meekly replied “A-part”! They then arranged their limbs to their liking, but not to mine, as the old gentleman near me kept on following my leg with his = Ada, was under my feet, so I put up the lame one on the seat opposite, & covered it with my shawl.

I at length despaired of getting rid of the “leg”; so when they both of them were snoring, visions of “Pope’s toes” & Bishops’ leg s came across my dreamy senses, & I quietly – but resolutely, stamped my foot on his Holiness! I mean, his Lordship’s! I saw him sit up instantaneously and look round at me; I never moved = and I think his impression was that one of my legs was subjected to gout, the other to fits! When they left at Campbell Town, I was so glad.

We reached Hobart Town in good time this morning, and I procured a Cab to come up here: William was from home, at New Norfolk, but came home in the afternoon, and was so glad to see me. Bessie is looking far better than [124] I ever saw her look; stouter, and not so hectic.

Louis is a delicate looking child; Annie grown but very thin = she talks so well, & is a nice little pet.

M^r Smith came down to see me, and is looking thinner than he last was when I was here.

30th Sunday. William, who dined out last evening, remained late in bed, & I did not rise very early either. About 1 o’clock I accidentally went into the Drawing room, and found Mess^{rs} Clarke & Dry there; it was a wonder I saw them, for nobody ever told me that M^{rs} Hadden was up, even. There is such a coldness pervading this house, I cannot account for it! The servants all seem strange, and stare at one!

Dear Richard Dry! how it gladdens my heart to see his face once more; how I cling to old friends, old times – associations, all! Good Heavens, who would have a nature like mine, to feel every kindness so keenly, and [124] every bitterness & slight

³ Opposite (French).

⁴ The good father (French).

so sadly? The very best ^{feelings} of my heart are lost in untameable Passions! On seeing my old friend I recollected oh! numberless events which were better forgotten by me, as assuredly they are by him; and yet the poor fellow, like me, seems to have some secret grief.— I would like to know if either of us will ever be happy?

Louis went with the two gentlemen to M^r Gregson's to dinner, and did not return until 10 o' clock. Miss Burnett called; I like her rather, & feel for her.

Bessie went out with M^{rs} Victor on Saturday; I did not go to see the lady, as I know she does not like me, and I decidedly do'nt her.

2nd [August] Wednesday. On Monday morning M^r Dry and Miss Buckland came to see me; the latter did not remain long, as her time is so occupied with her pupils —

William drove Bessie out, and M^r Dry stayed and chatted with me, until disagreeable [125] business called him away. Dear, good soul that he is — not spoiled by the world, altho' so flattered! But nothing can injure so noble a nature as his. —

Yesterday Mess^{rs} Burnett, Dry & Clarke dined here; I cannot scarcely account for the wretched feelings that took possession of my mind — so many old & to-be-lamented scenes flashed across my mind when looking at Richard Dry, that I was forced to think of my utter loneliness in this world!

Bessie got very cross and rude late in the evening, and altho' very tired, would not go to bed until actually obliged.

Today made up for yesterday! I've had such a delightful ride on "Waverly" accompanied by M^r Dry; The horse carried me very well and is so well broken. We went to the Ferry, and got home at ½ past 5 o'clock.

3rd Thursday — M^r Clarke asked me to ride his horse today, and Louis accompanied us. "Judy" is very well-bred, and spirited; but [126] carried me so quietly, that I'm sure she will make a good lady's horse.

Miss Burnett & her sister, and Miss Burgess called this morning, and left when we did. We had a quick ride today, and poor Louis kept on calling out to us to stop for him!

I was vexed in the evening by being told of a story which Bessie says is generally believed here, with regard to myself and M^r Dry; I only wish it were even probable or possible that such a thing could occur = but it is too outré⁵ to think of!

⁵ Outrageous (French).

In the morning I walked up to M^{rs} Roberts' and on my way fell down the hill, when I got a bruise on my elbow. Anna-Maria looked very happy, and is not at all anxious to come home. M^r Roberts has built two very nice rooms, and they are prettily furnished; La dame, is looking better than formerly, rather stouter, which is a decided improvement.

4th Friday – This morning the Misses Burnett & [127] Shaw made me an early visit = Miss Shaw looks very happy, I suppose with the prospect of a happy marriage = which event takes place on the 26th inst.

William & Mr Dry came in at 1 o'clock, and at 2 the former drove Louis up to New Norfolk, his horse 'Waverly' having gone in the morning, to be ready for the hunt tomorrow.

Soon after they started, M^{rs} Victor called for Bessie to go for a drive; and M^{rs} Roberts came in and sat some short time with me.

M^r Dry sent up "Judy" for me, and a little before 4 o'clock came up to accompany me for a ride. We had a quiet turn round the Domain, but upon my starting into a canter, Mistress Judy ran off, evidently terrified at my habit. M^r Dry remained behind, and I pulled her in after some time & trials.

It was very cold out, and I did not feel warm until I reached home. M^r Dry went to say Good day to Bessie, and then did the [128] same politeness towards me – after which he left; he goes by the Mail this evening.

5th Saturday – D^r Macwharrie sat some time with me this morning, and was joined by D^r Dawson, who came to see M^{rs} Hadden. They did not remain more than 2 minutes with her, and D^r Dawson says she is much better than when he last saw her. He knew Baxter when a boy; and has seen Captⁿ Briggs quite lately: I like the old gentleman's manner, and think I should be pleased to know his wife, too.

I was to have passed the morning at M^{rs} Smith's, but the rain has prevented my going = this afternoon I think I shall go into the town with Miss Buckland.

I received notes from dear Maria & Tom yesterday, which I answered immediately, & M^r Dry took them. I finished Tom's present & will put [it] to rights this evening; he is doing some sketches for me in a small book of places that I know in this country. My Album is at M^r Clarke's, and M^r C. Wilmot is going to contribute to it in the poetical line.

7th Monday – Yesterday morning about 9 o'clock Ada took it into her head to abscond, and did not return until nearly 10 at night; I nearly cried my eyes out, I was so intensely

miserable! Mr Smith was so kind, and went everywhere he could think to see for her, and gave the Police notice of her loss = Miss Buckland too, was most anxious for me. Oh! few persons can understand how much I love the poor pet.

I am going to see M^{rs} Smith this morning, but really I would rather stay at home, for I hate the walk. William & Louis returned yesterday afternoon = the former had no sport at the hunt, and got a fall into the bargain.

10th Thursday – Yesterday I received a letter from M^r Dry in which he tells me of a Vessel going to Port Fairy in three weeks, which will be too late to send cuttings, I fear.

He likewise tells me that Tom Lyttleton is going [130] to sail in the Raven for Melbourne, on Friday; I regret not seeing him before he leaves, but I am still more sorry for the cause.

On Tuesday I walked down into the town with M^{rs} Roberts and the children, but did not execute many commissions = In the afternoon I rode “Judy” accompanied by William; I do like the little Mare, she is so like “Daft Jamie” in her ways – so skittish!

Ada took it into her head to run off from me in the street, and did not return until late in the evening.

M^{rs} Stanley paid me a visit, she is altered in her appearance, grown coarse; but her manners are cold & ladylike! (Anybody may appear ladylike if they only preserve a cold demeanour!) M^{rs} E. Butler called, but I was just going out so did not speak much to her; she is in great distress about her husband who is in a dangerous state, I believe.

I went to return the Misses Burnett & Shaw their visits yesterday; Miss M. Shaw was telling me [131] that her elder sister had given up dances, and such Vanities! She is to be married in September to the Archdeacon.

Miss Mary Shaw came to see me with her Father yesterday morning, and asked me to go and see them on Friday when William goes. M^{rs} Roberts came and passed the day with me yesterday; she is good-natured & active, which is quite a treat to find, for everybody seems to be falling asleep with very want of mind and activity. I understand her thoroughly, and am sure she likes William very much.

D^r Macwharrie sat with me a long time, and tried to find out whether I had an affection of the heart, this, by the way, is ascertained in rather a funny way, and almost causes one’s heart to beat whether it would or not!

He is going to use Chloroform to take out my teeth, and I trust it may have no ill effect.

William got a pretty waistcoat pattern from Miss Sorrell yesterday, and I'm going to work it [132] for him. I shall work one for M^r Dry too, but not until I get to Yambuck. D^r Dawson has been paying me a visitation this morning, and I find him most agreeable, we know so many persons in common.

I've been reading "Elopement", and rather like it = I have been making some little petticoats for my Godchild.

An invite arrived from Government House yesterday – for the Birthday Ball on the 25th. I shall accept it, altho' perhaps I may not go.

11th Friday – Yesterday D^{rs} Agnew & Macwharrie came to take out my teeth with the use of chloroform, and as Bessie was very anxious to see me under the influence of that medecine [sic], I sat in the Drawing Room to undergo the pleasing operation! I warned the good people that it was very probable it might have some dis-agreeable results on my nervous system, & after that I sat down in an easy chair to undergo whatever might be deemed requisite. [133] A sort of vinaigrette composed of tin, with a mouth-piece is filled with wadding, and on it placed the chloroform = the Doctor then holds the apparatus to your mouth & you inhale the spirit as much as possible, at the same time your nose is held, which effectually prevents any breath escaping that way. I very soon became insensible to pain, but continued all the time to know what was said or done by those in the room. D^r Macwharrie scarified one gum, and was fixing the instrument to take out the tooth, when I went into violent hysterics, and continued to have them until nearly 5 o'clock.

I believe the three gentlemen had enough to do to keep me quiet; it was terrible! Knowing all that was going on, yet unable to prevent it. The pain is nothing, but the feelings are sad!

Miss Burnett & M^{rs} Roberts came in for a little while, and when I felt better, I went into the drawing room = where Bessie gave me a laughable account of the "Chloroform scene".

[134] 13th Sunday. Friday I was very poorly all day, but recovered in the evening. William went very early to Richmond, and drove Miss Burnett up there; they returned in the evening after having a pleasant day.

The hunt was good, and the hounds killed two kangaroos. Miss Burnett remained to tea.

I passed a wakeful night, and was the first to call up the sleeping inmates of this house; William came in[,] in his hunting costume, and it quite revived me!

D^r Macwharrie came to see me, and I am to try the chloroform again soon.

Yesterday Mr Bicheno sat with me some time and expressed his anxiety at the effects the “sleepy” dose might have on me, again.

Miss Buckland passed the afternoon with me, and I walked out in the evening with her and William, whilst Louis rode his poney. Bessie continues to suffer from fever, and is very irritable indeed. Really altogether, she [135] is to be pitied.

I had a letter from M^{rs} Chiene, so I presume some Vessel is in from Portland or Port Fairy. Reading “Father Eustace” by M^{rs} Trollope, and like it.

Sunday – Last Sunday D^{rs} Macwharrie & Agnew came at ½ past 11 o’clock, and we all betook ourselves to William’s room. The Chloroform soon took effect, and I do not recollect anything more for fully three hours, when I found D^r Macwharrie sitting on my bed & requesting me to speak, or move my head, neither of which I could comply with.

It was a sad state to be in; to feel every kindness and care, and not be able to even nod in thankfulness! All my feelings were seemingly in full play = frequently a gush of actual tenderness would come over me, and oh! I fancied all sorts of delightful dreams, at the same time fully knew them to be visions!

It brings every impulse & feeling into bitter play = and even now, I’ve not recovered [136] my usual “coolness of heart”!

My one tooth was taken out, and another one broken in my mouth, neither of these did I feel; so far good.

I shall never forget D^r Macwharrie’s great kindness! – how he sat with his hands cooling to put them on my head! He is indeed kind hearted, and consequently a favorite of mine.

On Monday I did not get up until after 1, and I then went down to see Bessie; she never said “how are you”, or appeared to think for an instant that I had been ill. After sitting with her a short time, I had to go to bed again, and there remain. William was out all day, and I could get nothing to eat and not even a glass of wine. Miss Buckland came in to see me and was so very kind in sending me soft biscuits, etc. William went by the Mail to Oatlands, and returned on Tuesday evening.

Thursday Misses Buckland & Burnett [137] came to see me; the latter was rather disgusted at the manner in which Bessie treated me. They had scarcely gone when M^r Clark came, and brought “Judy” for me; William & I commenced a ride, but the rain came on, and we were obliged to return.

I thanked M^r Clark for the Mare, and he remarked that I had not been out lately = I said I had not been well, and he spoke of the Chloroform, and asked what effect it had the second time on me? I said “Oh far quieter this time”; whereupon Bessie said “D^r Macwharrie said he never knew anybody under the influence of Chloroform to offer resistance; because of course if they did that, they were not insensible”! This was too much altogether, and I immediately fired up at it, and asked her if she for an instant imagines I would feign such a thing? She was like people who talk a great deal of spite. She was frightened and could say nothing but “Oh! no, I did’nt [138] mean that”. M^r Clark looked surprised, but it did her good! and actually gave her an appetite for dinner!

I almost determined on going over this week to Launceston; but William said I had better suit my own purpose, and not go until after the Birthday Ball, so I intend doing so. M^{rs} Burgess too has promised to give a dance.

I went to church today, and heard the Bishop read the service and preach; he has a good voice, good delivery, but speaks as tho’ his mouth were full of plums. The church is well attended.

In the afternoon we walked round to see M^{rs} Maclean, and sat some time with her; she is going to send her baby round to see me.

Yesterday Miss Buckland & I went shopping and I purchased a new dress – rather pretty. She gave me a neat little brooch.

Monday – I took Annie with me to Miss Burnett’s, and sat there until 1 o’clock, when [139] we went for Louis from school.

In the afternoon a Captⁿ Maine called; D^r Macwharrie & M^r Clark; The latter drove me to M^r Bicheno’s = and Bessie went out with M^{rs} Victor — a pair of dear creatures!!

26th Saturday – How this week has passed! it is that nearly since I wrote in this book = yet I will not accuse myself of laziness, for I’ve been busy in various ways.

Last night was the Birthday Ball, and we went to Government House at 9 o’clock, there to join the giddy throng! The Avenue was prettily illuminated, and a

Guard of Honor stationed in the passage leading to the “reception” room. There were a good many people already there, and all of them standing close to the “Throne”. –

Lady Denison was standing by the Lieut. Governor, looking, and doing, [the] amiable; well dressed in a rich white watered silk = she is nice looking but evidently out of her element. M^r Clark was acting A.D.C. Captⁿ Denison [140] being too ill to be present. M^{rs} Stanley was standing just behind the Court, and looking cold & ladylike; I, however, have not found her cold, so should not say it.

Sir William told William he wished the people would move into the other rooms, we therefore commenced doing so, and were followed by a great number of persons.

The band immediately struck up, and the Polka was speedily danced; I sat still one Quadrille & one Valse, and had plenty of dancing without either. M^r Despard of the 99th danced a good deal with me, and joined to his nice dancing, he is a good “quiz”. M^r Dry & I had a long chat, but I suppose if the truth were known he had previously told M^{rs} Barrow that he would do so; he is evidently afraid of her, and she too, so different from what I could ever imagine his loving! She has a fine forehead & eyes = her mouth is hideous, and [141] she does not clean her teeth! = Her figure is bad, her manner boisterous, and her tout ensemble⁶ that of a low actress! So much for Richard Dry’s Flame. She several times brushed past me, stared at me, and at last, after watching us for some time, came and sat down by me.

It was a bad feeling that then possessed me! I thought that such had long since quitted this frail body = but no! I’m only what I was! This I’ve determined; never to place myself in the same position again, and will not attempt to rival so much purity, Beauty – and in fact M^{rs} Barrow!

To resume; most of the ladies were nicely dressed, and altogether they were well looking. There was a Miss Fenton who was considered a Belle, and certainly a fine girl; but there was no decided Belle in my opinion.

D^r Macwharrie was most amusing, and said some comical things; I like him very much.

M^r de Winton took me into supper, which [142] [was] a standing affair. After the Queen and her royal Consort, etc were drank with considerable cheering, Col: Despard proposed in a most broken-down speech, the health of his Excellency; this was drank

⁶ General effect (French).

with great spirit and the thanks in return were well expressed by the Governor. After this, we returned to the dancing, and commenced again.

It was well kept up until after 4 o'clock, but we left before many others, and many others before us!

I liked Miss Buckland, and Miss Barlow's dresses better than any others, they were well put on, too.

This morning I was up early copying music to the amazement of Miss Burnett, from whom I sent to borrow a book, and she says I'm a most "wonderful person"! In the afternoon, M^r Clark drove me out to M^r Bicheno's, and had a most delightful chat there; I think M^r Clark is perhaps a little above the common herd; at all events, he would be if he had [143] good examples: – as it is, he leads a too dissipated life altogether, poor fellow!

We met M^r & M^{rs} Barrow, M^r Dry & some one else riding; we then met William, M^{rs} Roberts, 2 Misses Spode, and two attendants riding.

I said to a friend of both, "M^r Dry is most decidedly a Victim of M^{rs} Barrow's" – "A very willing one, at all events", was the reply: "He is very successful in his loves", said I – "He deserves to be", was the answer, "he takes so much pains seeking them"! This is the most true & severe thing I ever heard said of my old acquaintance. We returned in time for dinner; and after we had retired to our rooms, M^r R. Cumberland came in and proposed to William to go to M^r Maine's, which they immediately did, and there staid until 5 o'clock in the morning.

28th Monday – I went to church yesterday morning, with the Misses Scott, and on my way home called at M^{rs} Richardson's, and sat some time. When I returned, I found Mess^{rs} Dry & Noyce here; the latter is a Police Magistrate at Spring Bay. William & he went out walking, and I took Annie with me, and went to see M^{rs} Smith. M^r Dry came part of the way with me, and I advised him to leave me to proceed alone, as I think he would be wrong to do anything to vex a woman's feelings, whom he has sought and won! I would be sorry to bring more misery on him than she will eventually bring.

I sat a long time with the Smith's, and Miss Buckland joined us there; we then came home, and M^r & M^{rs} Smith went to see M^{rs} Maclean..

Mess^{rs} Cumberland & Noyce dined here; the latter is better than I expected to find him, and strange to say, I think my mare Myrrha belongs to him.

The Smiths go to Hong-Kong in about three weeks, and appear to like the prospect. He called this morning, and asked us to dine there tomorrow; tonight we go to M^r Fleming's.

[145] Mess^{rs} Dry and Clarke called this morning, and the former gave me the hives I so much admired the other evening. I believe I'm going to ride this afternoon, but am not certain.

I had a letter of invitation from Margaret last week, and answered it by today's post.

2nd [September] Saturday – I've just returned from passing an hour with Miss Buckland; she has been singing for me very kindly. Oh! how ill, how anxious I feel tonight – I can scarcely tell why? For I almost believe, what I most wish for in this World!

Alas! at the best, 'tis a wearisome place, and our best feelings are thrown away.

On ~~Fri~~ Thursday I had chloroform again, to no purpose; and today D^r Macwharrie remained an hour & ½ in vain, trying to get my tooth out; I was ashamed of the trouble I gave him, & he is so very patient and kind. Tomorrow I'm to take ether, when I trust I may be rid of my [146] tooth. I never described the Dance at M^r Fleming's, which was very agreeable I should think, to several, tho' not to me!

His house is so very pretty, and handsomely furnished; everything in it denotes comfort & good taste. He was everywhere, trying to do the amiable, and succeeded very well.

The ladies looked remarkably well; so nicely dressed too = and far better than at Government House: I was not in spirits for it, and at the end of the evening, I said & did some cruel, unkind things; they were deserved, to appearance, but upon second thoughts, I had no right to inflict pain. I enjoyed seeing M^{rs} Dawson eat her supper better than anything else there, she[,] what we should say by a horse, "laid her ears back to it" = and eat voraciously.

M^{rs} Barrow paid and received devoted attention to & from Richard Dry; Can he, I wonder, love such a Woman?

5th Tuesday. Today I shall go by the Mail, as far as D^r Salmon's, to whom I wrote yesterday saying [147] I should do so. On Sunday they gave me 3 ounces of Ether, and it merely made me feel a little tipsy = so little, that I went down to dinner and passed that time agreeably with Mess^{rs} Dry, Macwharrie & William. No tooth out.

On Monday I went into town with William and M^{rs} Roberts; the former gave me a handsome Vase and such a beautiful “Musical Bijou”.

M^r Clarke sailed on Saturday, early in the morning, and had for “compagnon de voyage”⁷ M^r Maine; the latter has done well since he arrived, having made £150 in some 5 months.

They had a good hunt at Richmond on Friday, and glorious sport after a Kangaroo rat, which gave them a good run of two miles, and three fences! How frequently in life these small, trifling things, give us the most annoyance and research! So much for moralizing & its powers!!

I called to say adieu to the Smiths, Burgess’s and M^{rs} M^cLean. The former were very busy in packing up; M^{rs} Burgess apologized for not having paid me “proper attention”, and seemed [148] really ashamed of herself! – how very singular it is that some persons cannot understand that I do’nt care about “parties”; at least I would far rather go and pass a day and look at some of Miss B’s work than undergo poor M^{rs} Burgess’s apologies on the score of inhospitality.

It rained considerably, but I executed all my commissions, and went home, finding Misses Shaw & Burnett sitting with M^{rs} Hadden; the latter is delighted at giving the pattern of a bonnet to Miss Shaw, for the solemn occasion on the 26th of this month, when she becomes M^{rs} Marriott.

It was arranged that I ask William to go on the morrow morning with Misses Burnett, Shaw & myself to see High Mass celebrated at the Catholic Chapel; so when he came home, after dining with Richard Dry, I asked him to go, and he consented: after he had gone to bed, I received a note from Miss Burnett saying, she hoped I would not think her very changeable, but the Archdeacon was to be in town to breakfast, [149] so “High Mass” was out of the question! Poor William’s joy was great when he heard the respite, as he before considered himself a Victim to “delicate attention”!

All my goods and chattels were packed up early, and M^{rs} Roberts came down to sit with me; She, William and I then drove into town, where I paid a few Bills, and said Adieu to Webb’s: After returning home, I ran with dear Ada to her old friend’s shop, and gave her a good supper or dinner. M^r Dry came and I am delighted to find he accompanies me this evening to in the Mail.

⁷ Travelling companion (French).

I was busy, alone, in the dining Room when my kind hearted friend D^r MacWharrie came; he stayed some time, and amused me by saying that should I be ill and require any assistance he could give me, I was to write & let him know = that if I would promise to undergo what he advised & requested, he would certainly go soon to Port Fairy; but, he would be very angry, if when he reached there, I would say “No”, to his advice!

[150] He remained some time, and when he left, promised to send me over the Chloroform & pattern of his Waistcoat. I felt sorry to say Good-bye to him: he is one of those reserved, cold Scotchmen who are too proud almost to like or love any one but those immediately of their own kin; but who can be so warm hearted & considerate when they meet any one they do like.

We dined at 5 o’clock, to enable me to start in good time for the Mail this evening; M^{rs} Roberts remained, and we three had the table to ourselves, thank goodness!

Annie went to Miss Buckland’s today, and I hope will remain there for some time, as the poor little creature is sadly neglected at her own home.

We went in a Cab to the Coach Office, and found M^r Dry there before us; Samuel, as the time came for me to go, became so polite & attentive it was quite amusing, thinking no doubt, that I would make him some “present”! but I determined only to give to those who had [151] been civil all my stay, and therefore when he told me “Hâda” was very comfortable on the box with him, etc, I said “Thank you” in very measured tones. It will teach him to be more obliging in future to strangers.

M^{rs} Roberts came down with me, and William was to take her home in the Cab. The Mail soon started, and M^r Dry placed himself in the corner next to me, we covered our feet with the Opossum rug, and I did not envy a Being in the World!

How truly glad I felt to be out of that cold, heartless Town, where one never scarcely meets with a smile! In that House, where the very Menials echo back their Mistress’ impertinence! Dear William! I must love you indeed, to place myself in such a self-wounding position – mais c’est passée.⁸

Surely I forgot to mention that we dined on Tuesday at M^{rs} Smith’s where we met three American gentlemen, and very agreeable persons too; The one is Master of

⁸ But it is passed (French).

the “Montank” [152] the Yankee Vessel now in harbour, and in which the Smiths go to China.

M^r Uniacke drove me home at 12 o’clock, from dinner, as William had gone up to a Whist party at M^r Roberts’ = as I was going to bed, I met M^r R. Cumberland coming down stairs in a huge coat, ready to start by the morning’s Coach; he took my place in the carriage, and Thomas drove him to the Office.

6th Wednesday – I wrote on Monday to tell D^r Salmon I wished him to meet me at “the Bald faced Stag”, on the road to Launceston, that being the nearest Inn to his house; instead, however, of finding him there, I perceived my own note had not been sent, and added to this the Nile is impassable, so into town I came, only too happy of the chance.

Of all things (after an agreeable companion) to be wished – for in a Stage Coach of a cool night is an Opossum Rug! I do’nt know what Mr Robertson would have done without it? and as to ourselves on the back seat, we were enveloped [153] in it!

There was an elderly lady who started with us, and went as far as “Spring Hill”; she had an American clock in a case, packed at her back; M^r Dry suggested that she might put it on the seat next to her for five miles, but she in a philosophic manner said she had better get accustomed to it!

M^r Lloyd drove the Coach from Perth into Launceston, and jolted us sadly; when we reached the Cornwall he opened the door and held his hand to his hat = so I said “I’m not going to give you anything, for the worst driver I ever met; you’ve nearly shaken me to death”.

This appeared to amuse him considerably! Captain Conran came to speak to me, and after that, I walked in to my rooms, feeling rather tired after my night’s wakefulness!

M^r Youl came into town in the afternoon, and sat some time with me; he went to dine at Mess, as there was a large dinner given to Captⁿ Conran & M^r Cardiff — M^r Dry remained at home, (at least he drank tea with me,) as he [154] had no key to get out his dress clothes.

About 3 o’clock M^r Youl returned, and rapped at the door twice; I thought I would go and open it for him, and had proceeded some distance when I heard voices coming round the house, and on looking thro’ the window, perceived 5 more “choice spirits”! Caps were thrown up into the air, and cheers rent the silent hour! M^r Youl who

knew he would be brought into the business, thought it better to go of his own accord, so with a nimble bound he stood amongst the noisy ones, and enthusiastically called for “One cheer more”! This being responded to with energy, the gentlemen came to the door once more, where the Waiter was; after calling for Brandy, they all proposed “Leap-frog”, and caused the Waiter to “make a back”, which they maintain gave him much pleasure! They behaved very well, & even had the consideration to leave M^r Dry in bed, and not disturb him after his long ride!! (Some persons are much more considerate than others!) One gentleman said when they spoke of [155] not disturbing “poor Dry” = “Oh! yes let’s go in to his room, for I start tomorrow, and it’s my only chance of an introduction to him”! This tends to show how highly the good creature is beloved, by all.

When these good folks had retired, I slept for a short time so happily & soundly that I actually did not hear the Coach start.

8th Friday. Everybody appeared to be astir early this morning, and at 8 o’clock or so, Captⁿ Conran & M^r Cardiff went on board the “Freak”, which craft was or is, to convey them to Melbourne; M^r Dry went with them, and I sent a short note to M^{rs} M^cLeod by Captⁿ Conran. I was at breakfast when M^r Dry returned, and said that the “Freak” was on a mud Bank in the River, & he had advised Captⁿ Conran to come up to town, but he would not until he saw whether the Vessel could be righted: in about an hour, he returned to the Vessel and brought up the gentleman.

I went yesterday to dine with M^{rs} C. Henty, and met M^{rs} Barnes there; the latter left soon after an early dinner, and we then passed into the garden where they kindly made quite a collection for my parterre.

I sent the cuttings etc, by the “John” with a note to M^r Wilson on the subject.

Today I paid M^{rs} Welman a visit, and sat there some time; she told me she did not expect that I should remain in Hobart Town as long as I did, as she understood M^{rs} Hadden had said she wondered why William had written for me to come over, when he knew how she hated (“that woman”) me!

I wish I could find out what it was she said of me that was so dreadful! now, it is of no use trying to find out = but it appears to me unfriendly not to tell me, as I could refute it, and of course otherwise the report in a quiet way, gains ground!

Well! I went to the Cornwall at 5 o’clock, in the interim I paid M^{rs} Cox a visit, & tried some music. M^r Dry & Captain Conran asked me [157] to drink tea with them, and

I was happy to do so. I think this Officer will be a great acquisition to our Port Phillip society, and he has promised to come down to Port Fairy & see le monde there.

I did not stay up late as I was rather tired.

* * *

Friday, yes! today I remained at home, and read or listened to some papers of M^r Dry's that were to go to Hobart Town for the Council; what pleasure it would always afford me, to be near to him, and be of use to him! After all, I think our first & earlier impressions are generally best and most lasting – at least in my case they have been. However annoyed I may sometimes feel with this person for instance, still I always find & think him, the most thoroughly amiable, delightful person I ever met = such a gem in this wide waste! – Poor Richard! if he only saw this, how he would laugh.

M^r Davies came into town for me about 11 o'clock and said we would leave at 4 o'clock; at 2, we proposed all to luncheon together in M^r Dry's room, [158] so we four: Captⁿ Conran, Mess^{rs} Davies & Dry & I had an oyster luncheon = after which I retired to my own room and finished packing.

At 4 o'clock we left town; Ada ran so well by the gig all the way out and did not appear tired at her journey's end.

I found poor Maria in her own room, too ill to come down stairs, as she is suffering terribly from tic douloureux. M^{rs} Lyttleton looks very well, altho' much older, and is as active as ever, always doing for others, & never thinking of herself! She is a character worthy of studying.

The children are so much grown; Rowley quite a great boy! Annie is pretty, but very pettish – Emma is a little fatty, & so good tempered.

16th Saturday. Yesterday was M^r Davies' birthday – he entered his 44th year. I gave him a purse, and made a speech at dinner; he returned thanks in another!

We went to church on Sunday morning, but it rained too heavily in the evening to go.

Maria came down on Saturday last, but had [159] such a sad attack in the evening of Sunday, she has kept her room ever since, and her bed two days; = I'm in hopes it is leaving her now, as it seems to go to the other side of the face.

Last Saturday there was a meeting consisting of Mess^{rs} Weston, W. Archer, E. Archer & A. Walker, to see about M^r Boyd as Schoolmaster; & today M^r Davies hears he will come & “teach the young idea”!

Monday Mess^{rs} Marriott, Dry & Yarker came out to dinner, and returned to Launceston after 11 o'clock.

M^r Bowen came to dinner on Thursday, and remained until the following day; he is going to Port Phillip to try & gain a livelihood by Surveying. At present he leads a wo-begone style of life!

I've copied "Faith" and "Hope" for M^{rs} Cox; and "Dermot's death" for M^{rs} Cathcart.

I received a letter from William on Tuesday telling me how very ill Bessie was; today I had another from him saying she could not last many days. I answered his letter by writing to Miss [160] Burnett & saying, if she thought I could be of any service to the unfortunate invalide [sic], I would go immediately & nurse her: The man who took this note to the Post, brought me back one from D^r MacWharrie in which he wishes me to return to Hobart Town, as he does not imagine it possible Bessie could live out the night on which he writes. (Thursday.)

Of course I have no doubt as to what I must do, as a Christian: yet strange to say, I more than anticipate a rebuff when I get to Hobart Town, which I purpose doing by Monday's coach. I must leave Ada either here, or with M^{rs} Whithead, and send for her afterwards.

William enclosed me a letter from my favorite neighbour, D^r Aplin, in which he tells me of their gaining their Action against Ware, and altho' only a farthing damages were awarded, it carried costs. So far they are fortunate. The good little man writes so affectionately; he is so thoroughly single-hearted & pure in his way of expressing himself! Poor, poor fellow! he [161] can little imagine the grievous disappointment in store for him = and I hope he may never fully know it: he is most anxious to go home with some produce that may enable him to carry out his most darling object! How I pity him, and censure —

M^r Irvine has heard from M^r Campbell who expresses his grief in finding all his early associates, and haunts of childhood so altered. I can fancy his passionate nature feeling all this — and more, and I think he will return to these Colonies.

Baxter has been leading quite a Bachelor life; he passed 5 days at Captⁿ Brown's, and he & that amiable person are excellent friends! — Alas! "birds of a feather, flock together".

The Doctor makes a remark on Baxter's kissing me at starting; he says he never saw him do so before, and thought it "Profanation"! (this latter, ends there, I can assert!)

M^r Rutledge is down with M^r Flower, but M^{rs} Rutledge is not well enough to go until next month. [162] I suppose another small pledge is on the way.

21st Thursday. On Monday morning at ½ past 4 o'clock I started from the Deanery with M^r Davies, in the gig; – I left my sweet friend Maria, with reluctance, as I know she likes me with her when ill. Dear Ada, too, I said Adieu to with pain! my pet companion in misery, as in happiness – and always alike to me! Why is it then, that I should not love her?

It was such a cold morning, and the stars shone so gloriously! We met only one man, whom the Dean said he was sure was the one who milked the cows – an unpleasant situation to say the least of it! “Ah! Yes^[b]” said I, ^[c] in every station of life, a Coward (cowherd) is but a miserable being!” “Tolerable, if you could only have added the h”! –

We soon met the Coach, and found the vehicle empty – so in I got, and away went M^r Davies. I was quite alone until I came to Spring Hill, when strange enough M^{rs} Cahill got in, and once more we were fellow-travellers, [163] she having gone from Hobart Town in the mail with us the other night. We had no opossum rug tho' this time! – –

A most ludicrous scene ensued at the Inn at Spring Hill, between Father Bond and a woman who came by the Coach in search of her husband; she was complaining to the Padre of her spouse's being unfaithful, and said “Now, Sir, is it not enough to drive a woman mad”? “No!” he returned in very quaint terms “not if he ran away with a dozen other women”! I laughed outright.

I was heartily tired by the time I reached Hobart Town, and was going to procure a Cab, and go up to William's, when the Clerk came and asked me to walk into the Ship Inn. I did so, and the servant woman first showed me into the Coffee Room, and when I said I had rather not remain there, as some persons seemed on their way in; she then took me into another one, where 5 gentlemen got up from table, – and stared. [164] At last she showed me up stairs, and gave me a hint that Byron always said was so dangerous! “Opportunity”! – –

I sat there for a short time, and William & D^r MacWharrie came in the carriage for me; they had been on board the “Mountbank” to see M^r & M^{rs} Smith, and in coming ashore William fell into the River, and got thoroughly drenched. It gave me much pleasure to shake my esteemed friend by the hand; & I really think there was more

warmth in his than I recollect before. He is so tiresome! he will appear reserved and cold, when I'm sure his heart is so good & kind.

We returned to William's = I asked after Bessie, and was told she was dead! The poor soul had a severe struggle with death, and died almost unconscious of her approaching end. She was attended most affectionately by Miss Burnett thro' her illness – and M^r Fry, the clergyman came to see and read to her, when she was unable to answer him!

She asked for me once, and seemed anxious to see [165] me: – I forgive her from my heart whatever she may have said or done, altho' some things she invented have done me serious harm in some opinions! Heaven rest her. She is to be buried on Saturday morning.

M^r Roberts came in during the evening, and he & D^r MacWharrie left together after tea.

22nd Friday – M^{rs} Roberts passed Tuesday with me, I had to go on board the “Mountbank” in the morning to see the Smiths: it is quite pleasing to think how very comfortable they are in their cabins, so much room & space = almost too much for the children.

Miss Buckland came to see me, and has kindly offered to do my bonnet for me.

On Wednesday the Misses Burnett sat some time with me; Miss Burnett is looking very ill indeed. I suppose it is her long attendance on Bessie has effected this.

23rd Saturday – Poor Bessie was buried at 8 o'clock this morning; the funeral was quite private, only about a dozen attending. [166] William, feels & looks lonely! He describes his sensations quite as I should. After living so long a time with a person, even altho' actually miserable with him or her, still if one has any feelings, they must be that we miss a familiar face at least! We then think only of their good qualities, and forget their faults! 'Tis a providential thing it is so.

I went in to see her, and fell down = not with fear of Death, for I hold it to be such sweet repose after a stormy and wretched existence! and in this case, it looked so like sleep.

But there is an awful stillness; – (the silence of Death –) such a want of reply in the features we have always seen respond to our's! How much, how deeply, I should feel the death of one I really loved! I, who love with such intensity! And oh! what a grievous thing to be obliged to conceal, to hoard up such a feeling.

Last night M^{rs} Roberts being here, I thought it would be a good plan to try and accustom [167] myself to the sight, and so I ventured in with William & her, to see the Corpse. We all went in, and I walked up by William to see it; but had scarcely seen the cold face, when I felt the dreadful faintness stealing over me, and I came out of the room.

It would be difficult to describe my sensations, every day since I first came here. There is a painfully pleasing thrill comes so frequently, and powerfully thro' my whole system, that it causes me to nearly faint – and sob in the most hysterical manner! If I can only get D^r MacWharrie to understand me, I think he possibly might give me something to, at least, lull the feeling; I'm sure, however, it is mental more than bodily ailment, and may God grant it may soon cease — or it will in my present mode of life, drive me mad!

M^r Dry breakfasted with us this morning, and went away soon after. Dear Ada came by the Mail, and was so glad to see me! she licked my forehead & hand, a thing I never [168] knew her to do before. I'm sure I love her far better than many persons love their children.

When I was at the Deanery we heard of Bessie's illness, but all thought she would, as usual recover; On Sunday, however, after having tea I went up to sit with Maria, and whilst there I said to her "Bessie is just Dead"! "Oh! nonsense, she returned, it is thinking too much of it has made you nervous". It must have been about the same minute she died.

It is strange, because I had the greatest faith in what the Doctor said, and he wrote that he did not think she could live out the Thursday night previous.

I'm not certain whether I noticed in a former page my having dreamt one night whilst here that I had a letter from dear Harriet, sealed with black, and "Dead letter" marked in the corner; I told William of it next morning, & he smiled at me; I had nearly forgotten this vision, and was shutting the door of the hall, when the postman rapped at it; and on [169] reopening it, I found he had a letter for me, from England, with the Dead-letter Office stamp on it! Instead tho' of its being one from Harriet, it was one of my own to M^{rs} Reid, and not having found her, had been returned. So much for dreams & witchcraft!

Miss Buckland had luncheon with us today, and soon after she left William drove out the children. Poor little souls! they look so mournful in their black dresses –

and are so delighted with them! I shall send William away from home as soon as ever we get into another cottage, it will do him good.

24th Sunday. Last evening William walked down to see M^r Dry, but found the bird flown; he left a note for him, to ask him to dine with us today. Miss Buckland sat with me yesterday, and afterwards went into town.

I was quite amused to see William's face when I repeated to him what M^r Clarke told me respecting Miss Sorrell's idea of one day becoming M^{rs} Hadden! He began to assure [170] me with so much gravity, that he had never given her the smallest reason to suppose such a thing = that she was the last person he would ever think of marrying – but as to her being very fascinating & attractive, he allowed she was all this, and more.

I've been wondering if any of the persons who never called on me before when here, will do so now? I shall, in such case, take my time to return their visits; but perhaps, I am reckoning without my host, and shall not be honored by their calls.

D^r Hadley & M^r Dry called about luncheon, and they went with William for a ride; they both dined with us, and I was quite entertained with the former repeating stories of the "Judge"! He says M^{rs} Marsh is such a delightful person, and exactly suited to the man she has married.

We sat in the drawing room, and I seemed to miss poor Bessie from her usual place! At ½ past 7 o'clock, I looked at the clock, and thought of her having died that time on [171] the Sunday previous.

William & I drove to church, and fortunately, the carriage was in waiting to bring us home, as it rained in torrents – and thundered with vehemence! M^r Buckland preached, and I must confess that I was disappointed at not hearing the Bishop do so.

I wanted D^r MacWharrie to come to dinner, but William said he preferred going to church in the evening, & assigned rather an ominous reason for his doing it! Of course, I only believe that is on account of his not wishing to go in regimentals.

26th Tuesday –Yesterday M^r Dry sat some time here; William took Louis for a ride, and the poney threw, but did not hurt him. Their second attempt was better, and they rode some way with Col: & Miss Despard. Col: Despard has a couple of young greyhounds, and they are very pretty; yet not so much so, as my Bella.

D^r MacWharrie came in with William, and [172] sat a short time = I mentioned to him my wish to have asked him to dinner, and the reason why I did not: he smiled & said it so happened he did not go to church, & would have been happy to come here. I

could scarcely contain a smile when he [~~ment~~] said in his grave way “I was ready to go, but it rained”! What a contretemps!⁹

I told my secret yesterday, and it was listened to with almost — satisfaction; poor soul! what he proposed would be altogether too great a sacrifice, and never should be caused by me!

I wrote a long letter to Harriet, via Sydney.

Miss Buckland brought her work in, and had tea with us; she amused me with a description of a party at the Bishop’s, and what sort of persons were there.

William is gone out, & I’m glad to get him to take some recreation, for he looks ill.

28th Thursday – M^{rs} Roberts passed the day with me yesterday, but I fear I did not entertain her [173] much as I was in so much pain with my head and stomach; how I wish I could make up my mind to have the latter examined, & see if any medical treatment could be of Service.

D^r MacWharrie came in the afternoon, and had a chat with us all; I like him better every day, almost.

Just before tea Mess^{rs} Roberts & Dry came in from the Hunt at Richmond; they have had good sport rather. I never saw the latter in his hunting costume before; he looks so well with the contrast of red cloth to his jet hair!

William drove the party home, and then sat a short time with D^r Hadley = when he came home I was undressing, and it was amusing the compliments he paid me on my not having altered since I was 15 = and he took me in his arms; & it reminded me of when he used to come into my room of old, and put his face to my neck whilst I was lacing my stays, & say “Oh! you smell so sweetly of pears”! We had a long & confidential talk.

[174] Miss Shaw was married on Tuesday to the Archdeacon Marriott = may they be happy! Last night there was a Dance at Major Shaw’s, at which quantities of ladies would be, the other sex are scarce here.

29th Friday. Yesterday M^{rs} Burnett called, and I went out to see her in the carriage; she is coming today with M^{rs} Lillie to look over the house, as she thinks it will answer her. Poor old lady, her’s must be a dreary existence, for she is such an Invalide, & he is so over-bearing in his temper I understand.

⁹ Unexpected or untoward occurrence (French).

D^r MacWharrie sat some time with me, and he appears so amused with my “Overland trip”, I think I shall lend him another volume of my journal. I have told him to lend the first to D^r Agnew who wished to see it.

M^r Dry came for a few minutes before dinner, and looked very tired, as he indeed said he was; he was up very late this morning, or in bush phrase “saw the small hours in”!

William and D^r MacWharrie went down into [175] town, and did not return to dinner until ½ past 6 o’clock – which made John very wrath; I heard him murmur “What’s the good of cold fish”? He however, made up for the fish being cool, by seasoning the soup with a little extra pepper!

What intense pain I suffered yesterday; & how I tried to laugh it off! but sometimes it defied me; In the evening William went fast asleep, and the guest & I had the conversation to ourselves. I can forgive him everything or anything, but his admiration of red hair! Oh! I wonder if ever he slept, (or passed the night, I should say,) in the same room as a red-haired person? There is such an exceedingly unpleasant effluvia proceeding from their body, I should be ill if I imagined it even, to myself. Give me brown hair; the skin that it adorns, is sweet with common care! I suppose I’m very fussy, and find fault too often with my fellow mortals, besides Men think so differently to Women! –

[176] Louis went last night with M^r & M^{rs} Roberts to the Circus, and has not yet returned from school. Anna Maria is very good by herself, no trouble at all; she came down to dinner last evening, and had quite a game with D^r MacWharrie.

William goes to Richmond this evening with M^{rs} Sharland, and returns tomorrow, so we dine early today, before they start. I’ve promised to go Bessie’s grave at 2 o’clock, so I shall go, altho’ I feel very small inclination to move out, I’m so poorly altogether.

30th Saturday. M^{rs} & M^r J. Burnett came yesterday to see the house; at the same time, M^r Sharland came to dinner = and at 5 o’clock he and William left for Richmond. M^r Dry sat here some time, until in fact, he left himself only 10 minutes to dress in; He looked so tired and pale poor fellow!

D^r MacWharrie came in at luncheon with William, & said I should drive, instead of walk; I blessed him inwardly for it, as I am [177] so thoroughly unfit to do the latter. He is like the rest of mankind, no sooner gets one thing than he wishes for another = he

likes my second journal, but would like to see the last better! We took the children for a drive round the Domain and home.

Today I took them to M^{rs} Roberts', and then went into town for a few things; Thomas then drove me home, and started for the "Ferry".

Miss Buckland sat with me yesterday evening; I went round to her Mama's for a few minutes, and found her in undress, with her hair all down – & just going to wash the same! She performed this part of her toilette whilst I was in the room, and dried it by putting her head to the burning fire! how ever she could do so I know not! She is to dine here today.

My leg is painful, and seems as tho' a gathering were coming under the knee. 1st [October] Sunday William & I went to church in the [178] morning, and in the afternoon he went to pay some calls; I sent the children out with Ann, and John went out so the Groom & I were the only two at home. D^r Hadley paid me a visit, he is very talkative & agreeable. The Misses Burnett came in, and Miss Mary-Anne went to afternoon church = Miss Burnett remained to dinner; M^r Dry too came.

Poor Miss Burnett is composed of most romantic ideas & feelings = too much so ever to meet with anything but disappointment! She asks so quaintly "Do you think a person can love twice? is it possible to love two at the same time?" "Oh! a dozen"! said I in answer.

M^r Dry looks ill; and his face is bruised from a fall he had. I rather put him out of humour, and he said "By Heavens! I will not stand this; you always are saying something of the kind to me when I come".

On Saturday afternoon I had a most welcome letter from my own dear friend, altho' the news it contained was painful inasmuch as she [179] has once more suffered, and her little girl born dead! She tells me in such a resigned manner "It has pleased God to take our child!" Heaven bless her! She must in truth suffer at every accouchement – and so frequently too! –

D^r MacWharrie has not been to see me for two days, and I miss his kind visits; its never occurred to me until now that it may be a great nuisance to him coming to see me every day! My leg is so bad.

4th Wednesday. On Tuesday I received letters from Baxter, Tom Brown, and M^r Davies & Maria; the former tells me absolutely nothing, excepting that he hopes I shall be over

early next month, as he will be so busy with the ‘T’¹⁰ cattle; our servants are very good he tells me.

Tom writes me a very long letter and says that Baxter has been doing the amiable in his family with great effect, and perhaps it is a good thing: would it not have been as well to have practiced something of the sort in his own formerly? Now, [180] it is too late!

Horace Flower’s trick was excellent, so like him! I was telling M^r Dry of his answer to M^r Foster upon the latter saying he should send copies of his letter to M^r Flower, to several of his friends! M^r Flower wrote & advised him to send no more copies, if he did not wish to expose his spelling and grammer [sic]!

My good friend D^r MacWharrie came yesterday to see me, and I’m sorry to find that he too, has been complaining; he does not look well: – In [~~This~~] [the] afternoon he came in and remained to dinner and I was amused with him very much after tea, saying that he always made a rush for his bed after the light was out, as he never could divest himself of the idea of some unknown person being ready to lay hold of his legs! This reminds me of the good sketch of “last in bed, puts out the light”, where an old man & woman are described getting into bed, in a great hurry, & in doing so their heads rap against each other [181] in the centre of the bed, and up go their legs in true theatrical style!

M^{rs} Roberts sat with me yesterday morning, and has volunteered to go with us for a ride on Thursday, if I’m well enough.

Today we went to the Floral Show, but there was not much there to interest a person with a lame leg; the Band however, played so nicely two things in particular “There is a flower that bloometh” and “Petal”. M^r Dry was there like a butterfly “sipping sweets from every flower”, but looking so unhappy all the time. – poor soul!

I never witnessed anything to the disgusting way in which Miss R. Kemp showed her love for Captain Denison; and wherever the poor man went, there she stood perfectly vis-a-vis¹¹ to him! her eyes all the time instead of expressing “maiden modesty”, displayed the grossest feelings:– alas! for Mount Vernon – Ver-non, the ladies from thence at all events.

¹⁰ Symbol for a stock brand – possibly the brand for Yambuck.

¹¹ Face to face (French).

Miss Buckland came in, and remained the rest of the day with me; she commenced reading [182] a most interesting work entitled “Long engagements, a tale of the Affghan War”: it is so prettily written, I’m sure I shall like it very much.

The Misses Burnett sat a short time with me; the elder one looks pale. She is extremely unlucky in “wasting her sweetness on the desert air” – ’twill end in one of Shakespeare’s own plays “Love’s labour lost” = in fact quite a Misc—ge! – – I’ve written to Harriet, Marion, T. Brown and Maria; now this is no joke, as I don’t write short letters. “The Knight of Gwynne” is getting on well; I like it excessively. Lever is such a gentlemanly writer.

6th Friday. William is gone to M^r Burnett’s for a little while this evening, and I’m so tired with my side this afternoon that I’ve come up to my own room to sit until I go to bed ~ & which I do’nt think will be long.

Yesterday we went for a ride accompanied by M^r & M^{rs} Roberts; we had to come home pretty quickly, as it commenced raining. [183] M^r Dry came in and sat until dinner. As we were about to start yesterday, D^r MacWharrie paid us a visit and I asked him to join us = but he said “Tomorrow”; however, “today” he did not come, so I shall not ask him again.

I was so pleased to hear Richard Dry say he thought he should soon say adieu to the Council; it only adds to his annoyances, and expenses, and it is composed of great riff-raff from all I can learn.

M^r Sharland proposed that he should have a quiet hunt tomorrow at New Norfolk; so we are going up too with the children, and shall be back in the evening.

It was so amusing to see Mr Fleming & I today going along, our horses both pulling with all their might = Waverly first, when we got in. It is astonishing how few persons we meet when out; the town is full of nobodies!

Captⁿ & M^{rs} Stanley were riding in the Domain, and Captⁿ & M^{rs} Booth, and M^{rs} Walpole, driving.

[184] M^r Wedon writes to M^r Dry saying the “John” & “Clarence” are in Launceston, so I must send by one of them.

William has been sadly vexed today by getting a note from Pearson saying he would advertise him if he did not send back some scarfs, etc that were used at the funeral; in the first place he charged most exorbitantly for the whole affair, (£43) and because William found fault with him, he takes this means of worrying him.

My back feels so shaken! and my knee pains me very much; I ought not to ride I fear, but I cannot walk, and it is sad to be caged up, always!

9th Monday Night. D^r MacWharrie has just left; he came to see my knee, and remained to dinner with us. I do so very much like him! but I sometimes doubt whether even with his seeming good-nature he does not think me a sad plague.

This evening he was engaged to go to a [185] party at M^{rs} Cully's = and we had a laugh at him for saying when William told him that Miss Barlow would be there, "Ah! if I thought Billy would be there I would go!"

However dinner passed, and tea came; he then stood up by the fire & said "Do you think it worth while to go home and put on a black coat and then walk down"? I left it to his own inclination, and we tossed up whether he should go or not?

I wrote in a small book of his, "Brown coat versus Billy Barlow" and requested him not to read it, at which he became most anxious to do so! I then assigned a reason, and said he must not read either until going to bed, consequently he took the book with him, and left at 10 o'clock.

On Saturday at 7 o'clock, we started to New Norfolk, accompanied by Miss Burnett & the children; I drove to Bridgewater = it was very cold, and when we arrived at M^{rs} Sharland's [186] I was almost tired out. D^r Hadley was there, having arrived about ½ an hour before us. After breakfast the gentlemen went out hunting, and had five hours ride to no purpose.

M^{rs} Sharland & Miss Burnett went for a short walk, accompanied by William; M^{rs} Meyers came to see me.

The Hunters returned to a 7 o'clock dinner, & sat until 9 at their wine, when they were kind enough to come and see us for a short time; (here I must remark how far more polite & attentive our Gentlemen are! how they leave their wine, and gladly avail themselves of Ladies' Society = and never sit at table until summoned to leave! So much for the rules of Society – and town politeness!!)

D^r Hadley, William & Louis then went over to Elwin's Hotel to remain the night.

We did not stay up long after they left as I was so tired; Annie slept with me & she is the first child that ever did so: Early in [187] the night I awoke with the most excruciating pain in my tooth and head, and actually stamped about the room. I had no Eau de Cologne, and I feared going to Miss Burnett for some, as it might have alarmed

the house, besides perhaps, bringing on a nervous attack in Mademoiselle herself – for single ladies are so easily alarmed!

Oh! how I wished for my kind Doctor; altho' if he had been with me, I doubt whether my courage would not have failed me as usual.

M^{rs} Sharland looks so young with her tall children about her, and so many too! I did not know before today that M^r Sharland is an old Beau of Miss Burnett's! At all events Madame la Femme,¹² seems to have no jealousy in the matter.

12th Thursday. Thanks to my natural good spirits I'm "up and doing", otherwise I think, Bed would be my place of abode! I feel so ill at times, that I really am nearly giving [188] in; but then I bring to mind that half the pleasure of my existence would be gone were I to stay in my room! = and so I drag on as usual.

D^r MacWharrie is so kind and attentive, I can never thank him sufficiently for all his trouble. He's naughty tho' not to bring me back my books, as one reading I presume is sufficient.

Miss Buckland sat with me yesterday and today, as she had holidays both mornings: this happened on account of the arrival of the "Calcutta" from London in which Vessel Miss Butler came out, so her sisters obtained a little recreation in consequence.

We have English news to the 10th June, and France, la belle¹³ France, is once more tranquil at last as much so, as Martial Law will make it.

Austria is very unsettled; the Emperor went off for a short time, but was brought back; Whatever he gets, he richly deserves – if only for [189] his cruel treatment of State prisoners!

D^r Belchier is dead; and Col: Sorrell. The latter family will not be sorry for their mourning, as some persons do say it hides small defects! Pauvre fille!¹⁴

Monday M^{rs} Roberts passed the day with me – no! Tuesday I mean; and Mr Roberts dined here: he & William then went to D^r Hadley's for a rubber, and M^{rs} Roberts & Eliza remained the night – the gentlemen going up to M^r Roberts' to sleep. We went to the Band, & I was pleased with it. Wednesday we returned visits; I only sent in cards, excepting at M^{rs} Maclean's & M^{rs} Burnett's.

¹² The wife (French)

¹³ The beautiful (French).

¹⁴ Poor girl (French).

Lady Denison has lost a brother, Captain Hornby R.E, it is the first death in her family and she feels it very much, on dit.

M^r Dry was up on Wednesday for a short time, but did not come today, as he promised. D^r & M^{rs} Dawson paid me a long visit yesterday, and I must note down what the latter said, [190] it was so comical! She had with her a small cur, and William observed that Louis' little "Cleo" and he would make a nice pair! "We should perpetuate the breed," said he = and immediately left the room to fetch in "Cleo". "I hope" said M^{rs} Dawson with a grave face "they will not be rude here? He will," she added "if he gets half a chance"! I burst in to a fit of laughter at the idea, for all small animals are so very presuming & tiresome; and Ada had only "put down" the little wretch a minute before, on account of his advances! She however, was quite convinced that her fears were groundless when she saw "Cleo", who was in too matronly a state to think of lovers!

I've left the gentlemen down stairs playing whist, and come up to indulge in a quiet chat with my Journal –.

In the morning I drove with Miss Buckland to some shops, but did not get out of the [191] carriage, and yet I felt quite faint when I got home. D^r Hadley was with William in his room, and M^r Lloyd came in with us, and sat a short time.

They say he is replaced by M^r O'Reilly in the affections of M^{rs} E. B—d! 'Tis a loss, no doubt! I presume she thinks he came over to see her, instead of which he was obliged to come to prevent an action being brought against him for the Seduction of one A.G – "to the Attorney-General unknown"! (of course!) This was withdrawn, but the infant production being forthcoming I suppose he will have the felicity of aiding & assisting to maintaining it! After all there is considerable *éclat*¹⁵ in being the Father of a family! – Vive la liberté.¹⁶

William drove Mess^{rs} Hadley & Lloyd down into town, and took with him his portmanteau packed for Bothwell, where he is going on Monday, there to stay a week or so, hunting.

Mess^{rs} Sharland, Hadley & Roberts dined [192] this evening. Talking of this latter person reminds me of the other day looking up rather hastily from my work and seeing he & his wife exchanging very tender looks; I was surprised rather at it, for my idea is that we "cannot serve two masters"! When the gentleman had left, I mentioned

¹⁵ Splendour (French).

¹⁶ Long live freedom/ liberty (French).

something or other that made the wife say “the love is all on his side” meaning her spouse’s; now to me the fact is so repulsive of loving one man, & yielding to another! But these things are common in this World.

Last night came the answer to William’s application to leave to go to England; it was a negative! And with this my hopes of ever seeing England again, end. I fear that I shall be unable to go at all, as my means will be dissipated from not seeing to them myself = and oh! what a lot is in store for me after I return to Port Fairy! Annie will go with me there, and this will prevent my ever moving from home, as I [193] never will leave her.

Miss Burnett sat with me for some time this afternoon, and is to pass Saturday here.

13th Friday. Miss Buckland sat here all the morning, and read “long engagements”. After luncheon she left, and dear William read some of “Sam Slick” to me. He then went out to pay some calls, and D^r MacWharrie sat some time with me; I was so pleased, altho’ I felt so ill! He is a queer mixture of coldness & warmth – the former in his shake of the hand; the latter in his thoughtfulness of me. I’m always glad to see his grave, demure face come in.

Whilst writing this, I’m applying leeches to my knee, which he brought for me; Some days ago M^r Dry said to me “Why do’nt you show your knee to D^r MacWharrie? You do’nt like, oh! he sees plenty of legs”! “That’s very well talking” I replied, “but in the first place I have an objection to showing mine; and the next, I do’nt think he would wish to see it”! [194] He looked grave for a second, and then said “Oh! would’nt he”? However, I did make up my mind twice to let him see my knee, and he is so quiet when he touches it, that I do’nt mind him at all. D^r Scott used to be so rough, and pull down my stocking in such a sharp way! I was a child then = but he should not do so now, I’ll warrant.

D^r Hadley & M^r Dry came in just before dinner, the latter is unable to go to Abyssinia next week, and says he has said “Adieu” to the Council today – pour jamais!¹⁷ He speaks of returning to Launceston next week.

William heard via “Calcutta” from M^r C. Wilmott & D^r Robertson; the latter is in Gibraltar grumbling away, as usual, and regrets this Colony so much,

¹⁷ For ever (French).

notwithstanding his continual abuse of it, when here. He talks pleasingly of Mina, and M^r Jacquier's Sherry!

I've finished "The Knight of Gwynne", and altho' I like it, I think it inferior to any [195] of Levers' that I've previously read.

Tonight I've commenced the Memoirs of poor L.E.L. – and now to bathe my knee!

15th Sunday – Miss Burnett passed yesterday with me, and assisted in entertaining the good people of Hobart Town who were pleased to call on me.

We had scarcely left luncheon when Col: and M^{rs} Despard were announced; then Major & M^{rs} Ainsworth = they departed, and M^{rs} E. Bedford, (my favorite) came in! M^{rs} Roberts and Eliza – both of whom went into town with William.

M^{rs} W. Bedford & her daughter came next; how very well the former looks! and the daughter appears such a nice girl. They left, and the two Misses Walker & Miss Burgess then came in; M^{rs} Burgess is gone to Fenton Forest for a week, and left her disconsolate daughter alone, at home!

Last, tho' far from least, came D^r MacWharrie, who gave me sundry hints on not indulging in too much wine, etc! I think he tries [196] to see if he can put me out of temper, and then he would laugh at me, I suppose! It will take a good deal from him to effect this, I like him too well to pout at a word.

William dined out with M^r Dry, and left Miss Burnett & I to our "meditations, fancy free". They both came in at tea time, and M^r Dry was in such a comical humour! I was showing him a brooch that William brought home in the afternoon, and in taking it from my hand he put on a look I've only seen in his face twice before! I'm always grieved to do so.

But to return to the ornament! It is a pair of greyhounds coursing a hare = and the effect is very good. I do'nt know who it is intended for, but I can almost guess.

M^r Dry went home just before Miss Burnett, William escorted the latter, and appeared pleased that he met D^r Hadley at the gate, who joined his party, on the proviso that William would go to his quarters and smoke a cigar.

This morning I did not go to church as I'm very [197] lame, and Peter and Waverly are both gone up to Bothwell for the week, so the carriage is useless.

D^r MacWharrie came in after church and sat some time = he was in excellent spirits, and said I was too! William went up to luncheon at M^r Roberts'.

There is a woman who lives in a cottage opposite, of really tolerable appearance; she is continually at work in a dirty way, with beautiful black hair hanging dishevelled and her pretty feet slip-shod! Why was beauty given her I wonder? Were those white arms formed only to embrace some coarse wretch? Those eyes that could look love so well if only tamed a little from their wild roving? Alas! Woman “thou last and best of God’s creation”, how often art thou born beautiful only to cause & feel misery! How often is thy beauty a curse!

I rather take an interest in this poor creature, and feel quite inclined to moralise when looking at her nursing her little baby – I say to myself Yes! woman, in whatever station you may be, there is one feeling remains pure – ’tis a Mother’s love! [198]

Tomorrow the good people start for the hunt.

16th Monday. Whilst William was dressing this morning, Captain Denison sent to give him a seat in his Cab, so he was hurried off, instead of going at 2 o’clock as originally intended.

Last night at ½ past 9, I was amused by his saying he would go and see “Johnson” at his Quarters, and arrange for going by the 4 o’clock coach this morning! I knew who “Johnson” was, and where his rooms were! but with persons who understand one another as thoroughly as he & I do, not a word is uttered on such matters.

This morning he was very sleepy, and when he got up, he said the reason why he did not go by the Coach was, that it was blowing so hard, he would have been blown off the Coach nearly! Query? Where was he to feel this severe breeze?

M^r Dry came & sat the morning with me, and left after luncheon.

William Welman paid me a visit in the afternoon; he will, after a good drilling, make rather [199]¹⁸ a fine young man! At present he is a trifle too much impressed with the smallness of his waist!

I felt so much better all day, but regretted my good friend’s not coming to see me.

Busy all the afternoon with William’s waistcoat, and retired to my own room early = where I sat until my taper left me in the dark.

17th Tuesday. How quickly this month is going! Poor Bessie has been dead one month today; and this morning Ann & I looked over her clothes, and put aside any that may be useful to Annie. Her dresses are handsome, but her linen is bad: she appears not to have

¹⁸ Unpaginated in original.

cared for the unseen part of her dress! Now I, on the contrary, am so terribly particular with the under clothes, and do'nt care about dresses! Poor soul, she's gone!

Miss Buckland had luncheon with me, and is to drink tea with me on Wednesday; she is delicate, and yet has to slave on day after day! = how sincerely I feel with her.

[200] Louis went to the Band this afternoon, and Annie passed the day with M^{rs} Buckland, so I've been alone mostly.

M^{rs} Roberts & Eliza came in late, the former asked me to go there on Friday Evening – of course I declined.

M^r Dry came soon after they did, & did not leave until 7 o'clock; he goes with M^r & M^{rs} Kay up to the "Wellington Falls" tomorrow, & only starts at 5 o'clock in the morning.

I was looking earnestly at him for some time and he said it was rude to stare! Had he only known what I was thinking at the time, he would not have felt flattered. I was remarking to myself how differently I feel towards him now, from when I came I came [sic] over to Launceston; I have seen and believed, and nothing earthly will ever alter my opinion now! No! I'm a long time before I give credence to anything unpleasant but when I have once seen, 'tis a finale.

William paid a visit to M^{rs} Smith on Sunday, [201] and he heard such a comical story of M^{rs} Barrow, relative to a picture which is in M^{rs} Smith's possession. It shows how easily one clever woman may "put down" a would-be satirical one!

Miss Burnett sent me Col: Mundy's work on India, and a note.

I'm in much better spirits these two days, yet cannot walk, as my leg swells so much.

18th Wednesday. D^r MacWharrie was my first, no! second, visitor today; M^{rs} Roberts came early to ask me to let Eliza to stay the day here, as she was about to start for M^{rs} Booth's.

The doctor came next, and remained some time; he has half promised to dine with me tomorrow, tête-à-tête.¹⁹ It is amusing to see him ponder over the invite whether he should accept it, or not – of course thinking of his "Professional character" being at stake! Ah! well, I do'nt think I shall be the cause of his losing it! 'Tis a good thing to have any character to lose!

¹⁹ Privately (French).

[202] He was very obstinate about the Journal, I did not give him credit for so much —

Miss Burnett sat with me after, until very nearly seven; and as she left, Miss Buckland came in to tea; and remained until past 10 o'clock. She read and finished that interesting book on Affghanistan, whilst I did her bag, which she intends for a present to M^{rs} Mclean on her birthday.

How extremely I felt with our poor Army, as we came to their cruel Massacre! Oh! how sad for so many good, fine-hearted men to be so sacrificed – May God avenge them! Would it not be hard to return in this instance good for evil, and so “heap coals of fire on their head”? Our dear old Corps too, how have they suffered! It is all very well to call a Soldier's life an easy one; they who say so do'nt think that at any hour they may be called upon to be shot at, and when has a British soldier flinched? At least – how seldom! 'Tis enough to [203] make us proud of our Countrymen to hear of their noble deeds! Our brave soldiers, where can be found their equals?

Talking of these, reminds me that D^r Hadley is ill, & instead of enjoying the week's hunting, he is “in barracks”.

And how, I wonder, fared the Mountaineers today? Mt Wellington looked rather cloudy at one time, and I'm in hopes they had a shower, for a trip of this sort is nothing without an adventure of some kind: besides they could not have anticipated anything else this time of the year.

I spied Horace Flower's arrival in the paper this morning; so I wrote immediately to M^{rs} C. Henty to send him over. How glad I shall be to see his ugly face! I approve of ugly men sometimes. When shall I put this up? My knee is so swollen & hot tonight, I must positively say Good-Night to writing!
22nd Sunday. Dear William returned yesterday in time for dinner; he is looking far [204] better than when he left = and altogether he appears pleased with his trip, especially the “Cooking” at the “Bothwell Castle”!

Miss Burnett was passing the day with me, and kindly read to me.

On Thursday D^r MacWharrie dined with me, and M^r Dry sat here whilst we did so; D^r MacWharrie left soon after eight, and fortunately my other friend did not, as I had to send John out to look after our Abigail, (who had gone to a Dance,) but without effect.

On Friday M^{rs} Roberts gave a Dance, & altho' I had the promise of a bed there for the night, and the pleasure of being rolled up in a Wheelbarrow, still I refused; My

reasons were that I was very ill in body & mind = that I knew nobody would be there that I cared to talk to, and poor Bessie's death is too recent to forget, yet.

D^r MacWharrie seeing me so poorly in the day, [205] kindly came again in the evening, and as I was quizzing him on not going to the party, in came M^r Dry, ready to start. I was rather surprised certainly, as he had said so positively that he should not go – giving me at the same time good reasons for not doing so; however, he could not withstand the temptation, so after writing a letter to go by the Morning's Coach, he was leaving, when I thought it advisable to send again for the doctor, I felt so ill & hysterical. So M^r Dry's Cab went round, & returned with him. He remained with me until after 1 o'clock, so good-naturedly trying different medecines, and actually walked home & back once for some Rusic Acid! He says little, but does so much.

Yesterday M^r Dry called on his way home from Brown's River; he did not remain long, and looked so ill. Miss Buckland came to see me for a short time, and today [206] she passed with me. D^r Hadley called when D^r MacWharrie was here today, but I was too poorly to see him, & so he left – but returned with William, and paid visits with him to M^{rs} Burgess, M^{rs} J. Dunn, and M^{rs} Dawson.

Louis went to breakfast with Miss Burnett this morning, & then to church.

I got home my Journal yesterday from D^r Agnew, and was amused at his liking one funny little piece in it! such small morceaux show a person's taste tho', and how inclined themselves – to Solitude, or Gaiety, Romance, or Reality!

26th Thursday. I must not commence with grumbling at what I've suffered since last I wrote in this book = but say how truly & really thankful I am to be able to once more do so; How different this time to when I was confined to my bed last! With dear William near me – and my kind, very kind friend D^r MacWharrie to pay me so [207] much attention! I shall ever remember him with the greatest esteem; it is quite absurd how I watch for his coming, and actually think pain less, when he is near. So far I've written, and must close it, as my eyes ache.

28th Saturday –Yesterday I received a letter from Tom Lyttleton; he writes from Melbourne, and appears very happy with the exception of having no one to kiss! I only fear he may do so too often in that “land of Syrens”.

Annie has been all the week at Miss Buckland's, who so kindly took her that she should not worry me; and she has been so good to me, in coming and sitting here, when I'm sure I must be anything but entertaining!

Miss Burnett too, is very kind, but I was vexed at her saying that D^r MacWharrie seemed to like torturing me – because he put caustic to my eyes – & [208] which was really of so much benefit to them; How few Women understand a sick person! They are all gentleness, but frighten, or try to do so, so often! They will say so gravely to you “Of course you know best whether what you are doing agrees with you, but if I were you, I would try such and such a thing! M^{rs}, or Miss Dash had exactly the same as you have, and did this, or that, and found great relief from it. They will inform you in a confidential manner that they consider you in great danger, and if it were their case they should indeed be anxious – as they are also in your’s!

Ill as I have felt, and do feel, I never have for an instant listened to Quackery, or felt inclined to doubt in any way my good Medical Attendant’s powers; and this I’ve carried to a foolish extent in my own mind as I would have taken, or done anything he ordered.

[209] My eyes being better is such a blessing, as I certainly did feel a little weary of being unable to read, write, or work; and several times had to recollect various persons afflicted for such a length of time – by so doing, I was reconciled to my Fate. D^r MacWharrie said I must have been very sinful to be so afflicted! He is right in this also.

But for the news of the day! On Wednesday M^{rs} Dawson gave a large “Collection” of monde, beginning with M^{rs} Despard, and down to the Polly Spode faction; it is said to have been a crowded assembly, and only twice the number of ladies to gentlemen = and several of the latter who could dance, only sitting still! Deponent saith two strange figures were there, one in the person of M^{rs} H—I, and the other that of Ensign William Welman, whom it is firmly believed has taken to the feminine “after-thought” a bustle!! Ye Powers! how I should glory in seeing him dancing “Deux tems”, with his coat tails setting [210] out! Why does not some kind friend tell him of it? I will, if I ever see it – ’tis a wrong thing to invade on any of our little weaknesses, or attractions (?)

M^r & M^{rs} Sharland luncheoned with us on Monday, and as the night proved wet, they dined & slept here; on Tuesday after breakfast, William drove the lady shopping, and returned home to luncheon. They are to be in town on Tuesday next, and dine here with the accompaniment of their three boys; William is then to drive them to Ridsen, on their way to Richmond. I hope I may feel better, as I entertain but poorly in my present state.

Miss Schaw came into town to the Dance, and on Thursday William took her for a ride on “Waverly”; She and Miss Burnett sat with me yesterday afternoon, and I was entertained by the former being positive in her refusal to go alone to M^{rs} Green, the Dressmaker’s, whilst her friend sat with me! She is what Baxter would term “Spicy”! Talking of this, reminds me that [211] my young admirer Miss Bostock is in V.D. Land. Strange that our gentry should have allowed her come – M^r Sturt, M^r A. Hunter, M^r Rogers, M^r Ritchie, all, all, only flirtations? Well, I did not give them credit for so much keen perception ~ for she is a winning little creature, and possesses such a pair of deep eyes!

Poor M^{rs} Hume is dead! what a loss to the children, and her husband; how often have we laughed at her little follies, yet invariably praised her amiability. Her 5 children will miss their Mother, poor souls.

I had a letter from Marion, dearest Marion, but surely I must have mentioned it before = bless her! She is at Newstead now, and I wrote to her last week.

The “Essington” was to sail yesterday for Port Fairy, and William wrote to Baxter saying I was too ill to leave, but sent him some English Papers, instead – They will answer as well, I’ve no doubt. Tom tells me that he says he shall come over immediately for [212] me! What an absurdity to talk in this way to any one – but it is only to strangers that he does so! His answer to M^r Learmonth when the latter accused him of making love to the Servant woman at Holman’s was good! and M^r Learmonth saying to me before him “It is well you’ve come home, for your husband is such an admirer of pretty chambermaids” – “He is welcome^[“]” said I, [“]to do as he pleases, he had my permission some time since”. But retournons à Hobart Town.²⁰

M^r Windsor is violently attached of a sudden to Miss Gertrude Walker, wrote to her Papa for permission to pay his devoirs, and having received the same, immediately sent off a letter to New Norfolk – whither the young lady & her sister went yesterday, enclosed by M^{rs} Nixon, with an invite from this lady to the sisters to go and stay with her; this will then allow the happy swain to go and see her often, every day in fact – and the course of “true love” (if such a thing exist) will run smoothe, for [213] once! My informant said very quaintly “I’m only astonished at his aspiring so high”! I believe she is really a sweet girl, and I trust they may be happy.

²⁰ But [lets] return to Hobart (French).

M^{rs} Roberts came this morning for Louis, & to see me; she looks ill & fatigued = and says she is quite fagged, having no servant woman. She was quite amused at my sitting so quietly with her, and the leeches biting all the time; she told D^r MacWharrie that I was very ill, and he seemed amused at it! If she or he knew what occurred this morning, they would not be astonished if I were so; but I never tell anybody my innermost feelings; it would be better if I had this, for instance.

Whilst the leeches were feasting on me, one lady-leech had an addition to her family – in fact making my knee a nursery. 'Twas a good thing the Doctor was here; but joking apart, it was a strange thing to ^{be} so busy at such a time! William drove Misses Burnett & Schaw, & Louis [214] up to New Norfolk this morning, and I fear they must have had rain on their way there. D^r MacWharrie went there likewise by today's coach.

M^r Dry called, but I was up stairs; as soon as I could, I wrote the "Rheumatism cure", & sent it to him; and returned the Portland newspaper to M^r Macdonald of the 99th.

M^{rs} E. Butler left such beautiful flowers for me; and such an amiable note; she says she will come on Tuesday to see me.

M^{rs} Booth called again, and expressed her regret at my being ill. Shakespeare! –

I sent up the bonnet to M^{rs} Marriott, and a cap to M^{rs} Sharland, this morning. M^r Dry has had melancholy accounts of poor Tom Landale, and thinks it barely possible that he is still alive.

I cannot make out which is the attraction to my friend – M^{rs} Kay, or her fair sister! yet I think the former – and shall amuse myself with a little by-play; I know I've always [215] a sure remedy, or revenge, if it were wanted, and I do say that what may be the result I neither care for, or shall attempt to prevent, if what I imagine be the case. 'Twould be a fine, a thorough plan – worthy of the Woman who contrived it.

And now to change this weary theme. Love! how hateful it is sometimes – and how it's purity and intensity is thrown away often. We only know what the feeling was when we lose the object of it! Those are happiest who can fly from one to another, amused with all, yet delighting in no one in particular!

Before closing this I must say what amusement I received the other day from something Miss B—t said: We were speaking of eyes, and she said she hoped if ever she had children, they would have blue eyes! I said I preferred dark – She said "But of course they can be whatever color the Mother wishes; at least I've been told so"! "Tell me how; said I, very [216] innocently! "Why by thinking of any person's eyes you may

like” – said she. “Oh! – I drawled forth – “I would far rather think of the person, than the eyes – but really it is too troublesome to be always thinking of the same person for ever”. – She then tried to explain what I knew she meant, & upon my laughing outright, said, “You’re just ^{like} your brother”! “Mama must have been thinking of him, said I, knowingly – and away went poor Miss B!

30th Monday –Yesterday afternoon I got up, and paid the Drawing room a visit; I felt so much better, & was in hopes I was going to be well again – when today I’ve been worse than ever! Altogether it makes me miserable – for it will never do for me to be always ill!

M^r Dry came and sat with me a little while yesterday, and then drove to Risden. Miss Buckland came next, and the poor thing was ill able to do so, for she was far from well, her complaint is very tiresome & weakening, [217] but will some day be removed – I trust.

D^r MacWharrie returned from New Norfolk at 6 o’clock nearly, and had not seen William – who came in at nearly 8, looking “blown away”, and complaining that the said D^r did not know his own mind two minutes together – in fact, he scarcely believed that the other had been out of town at all! ’Twas quite amusing when they met today in my room, to see, and hear them at each other. They make as much about a drive of 21 miles as we should of 300. The hair looks dishevelled, the whiskers uncurled! the coat dusty, the boots not properly polished! Then they had not their own razors! And who ever knew one man’s razor kind enough to shave a friend’s beard well? Then again the distance – 21 miles! – they are fatigued, and throw themselves into the first easy chair that presents itself, and flatter themselves they have done what England expects every man to do – his Duty!!

[218] M^r Dry sent me such a beautiful bouquet this morning, and this afternoon came and took William off to dine with him, after which they were to go and see the “Champion”[,Paddy Sinclair[,] fight some other deluded wretch. Well, I might take to many amusements before I would think of fighting “for pleasure”! But every man to his taste, say I.

I finished L.E.L.’s Memoirs; It is hard to come to the conclusion that she poisoned herself from unhappiness, when all her letters are teeming with affection for her husband, and she appears so very truthful in all. As to jealousy of a Native Woman – faugh! one may be disgusted, but never jealous surely. Poor soul! she is to be lamented – dying so suddenly, so young, so talented & beloved!

M^{rs} de Winton called today, but I could not see her – indeed I saw nobody but D^r MacWharrie, who sat some time amusing himself putting everything in disorder [219] in my two small table drawers! It was mischievous, but one could not find fault with anything such beautiful hands did!

I asked him if he wore gloves at home, and he was quite puzzled to imagine what I meant? He nearly cured my head ache, with his quiet fun = but the unfortunate leg, still remains in desperate pain; even now that I'm sitting up, it is quite wearying to do so. The blister I had on last night was painful in the extreme, yet I shall not mind, if it do my leg good. Tomorrow the Sharlands come, and I hope to be better able to entertain them than the last time they were here.

Louis passed the afternoon at Mrs Roberts', for I did not like her thinking William did not wish him to go there. Now then for "Tea, and turn-in", instead of "turn-out"!

9th [November] Thursday. It appears as though some evil "Genius" was forever tormenting and preventing my writing in my dear old book! [220] Illness, however, has been my principal drawback = and being in bed, to one who like myself does not really love it, has made me very low-spirited & I may say, desponding.

I cannot bring myself to enumerate all the small, or great incidents that have passed during this time! I've been greatly vexed at some things that perhaps I had better not even have noticed.

D^r MacWharrie has been unremitting in his attention & kindness = and I think of him with the warmest esteem & gratitude. D^r Agnew came with him this day week, & I was glad to see the little man, altho' he did look at both my "knees".

Yesterday I went with the Misses Burnett & William to hear the Band, and M^r Dry drove us home, (Miss Burnett & myself) as I became very tired & cold; & nearly fainted on my arrival here.

This morning Misses M. Scott & Burgess sat [221] with me for some time, and had luncheon. Misses Fenton & E. Spode then came in, and during this Drawing-room, in walked D^r MacWharrie! The young ladies soon after left – the gentleman likewise, tho' not before M^{rs} de Winton came in. She looked very pleasing, as usual – and is coming in tomorrow morning to sit & work. Next came M^{rs} E. Butler – and whilst she was here, D^r Hadley & M^r Dry called. M^{rs} Butler took Louis; and Annie went with Hume to M^{rs} Roberts' to stay until Sunday.

The two gentlemen remained some time, and D^r MacWharrie again came in, as I had proposed a drive. D^r Hadley kindly offered me his horse to ride, but the other Doctor would not hear of my riding yet. Perhaps he is right, for my knee is very painful; = but I'm making a "Move", to try and get over this terrible feeling of ennui, which I constantly ~~feel~~ have.

[222] Yesterday Captain Gregg of the 96th dined with us, and altho'' his face appeared familiar to me, I never, until reminded this after noon, recollected that he was the "small gentleman with the pantaloons", that I so constantly in days of old, found staring at me! It only shows how much "Men", claim my notice, or rather "fix my attention".

Miss G. Fenton was engaged to him, but the match broken off! Singular, such a tall girl to marry so short a man? Oh! but she has not tho'. – so my surmises go for naught.

~~D^r Hadley offered me his horse to ride;~~ [words under erasure]²¹ ~~I shall go with him~~ when William goes to Ross. This latter gentleman went down to M^r Maine's when I was going to bed = and I was sitting in great pain with my face & head, it being nearly daylight, when I heard him return.

All today has been lovely! – it quite made [223] me sigh with impatience to be out again and taking "my canter". It is all well for quiet-going, stay-at-home folks to be confined to the house now & then ~ but for my more impetuous nature, it quite depresses me!

I've got seven such nice ~~Fuchsia's~~ Fuchsias, of different kinds, and have them in my window = they will be so admired in Yambuck.

9th Thursday – It is between 3 and 4 o'clock, now, and I'm sitting in the silence of "sleep", writing by the fire! I've been in downright agony for some time, but am now almost free from pain in my unfortunate face.

Laudanum! my old comforter, has been had recourse to, and I hope to get some sleep soon.

I've finished the book Miss Buckland very kindly lent me, called, "Rose, Blanche & Violet"; it is prettily written – and the second character is so womanly & faulty, that I consider it beautiful! Violet, is more my own stamp, and I can therefore perceive [224] her faults easily.

²¹ 3 ½ lines erased as well as crossed out; there is a drop of red sealing wax in the bottom right corner.

M^{rs} de Winton sat all the morning with me; she appears a pleasing girl. The Misses Burnett came in soon after she left, just as I was lying down to compose myself, as I feel to require this now & then during the day. Miss Burnett remained, whilst her sister went shopping.

M^r Dry passed thro' the house, but did not see or ask for me, to my knowledge. He was too hurried, going for a ride on Waverly, with M^{rs} Roberts, Miss E. Spode, Miss Allport & William. They did not return until nearly 7 o'clock.

D^r Hadley was here to see me, and to show me his horse; he seemed quite sorry to see me in so much evident pain. My Doctor was not here today – but I shall ask him to dine with me tomorrow, as William dines out at the Mess.

I gave Miss Burnett what William wished me, i.e. the shawl, etc – poor girl! it is very [225] acceptable, for her Papa allows her so small a sum for clothes.

Miss Sorrell is to be M^{rs} Elliott, when he gets an answer from England; to some letter written respecting “leave, license, etc” Bets run high that it will never be a match; ‘tis hard to say = I advise her to go Port Sorell or Circular Head; 10 months is too long to be engaged & always close to the person! Poor girl! at all events let us hope she will continue to like him until then.

It is so strange that I do’nt hear from Baxter again; he certainly is an infamous correspondent, and besides which he & I have little to communicate, apart from actual “home” matters! D^r Aplin is, I expect, turning gloomy – and finds no delight but in wandering on the Banks of the Shaw and talking to dear little “Joey”! How glad he will be to see me again! how he spoils me, with all his Tropical blood, and passionate nature; he is an amiably disposed person.

[226] Annie is gone to stay a few days with M^{rs} Roberts; I think change of air does her good poor little thing, besides which I know I’m unfit to keep them both in “order” now. Louis is a dear child – so manly & yet docile; and a sweet disposition & temper.

I lent my small music book to the Band Master of the 99th; I think the Native Airs will be pretty on the band.

William has been very fortunate lately in getting two purses given him; one from Miss Buckland, the other from Miss Burnett.

A most sad occurrence has taken place within the last few days = the Brig “Governor Phillip” was wrecked on Cape Barren Island, when on her return from Sydney with a detachment of the 96th and prisoners – and one Officer, M^r Griffiths, and

six soldiers – (& I believe some prisoners too,) drowned! The former person seems to have been a most exemplary young man, and the manner in which his death was caused adds to his credit – and the [227] sincere regret expressed for him by all.

Yet with all this, the Band went on playing, the people smiling & talking, the sun shining, as tho' nothing had happened to cast a gloom on them – and the “Morrow” came on as usual to all but the Dead!

It makes me sad to see people, commonly called good-hearted, pass on from the most mournful topic, to the most joyous one, and never even cast a sigh on the loss of a friend! Oh! if this be worldly, and civilized, let me remain in my wild & more feeling mood! I cannot forget! —

When shall I cease writing? I have a horror of going to going to [sic] bed, for directly I lie down, the pain commences; I think I will sit up by the fire.

Last night by the bye, M^{rs} Allport gave a party; William told me at dinner that she had advised M^{rs} Roberts not to associate with me – for fear of contamination I presume! I cannot [228] conceive whatever possessed her to set her face against me! It's too absurd by half.

D^f MacWharrie liked “Gilbert Earle”; I had scarcely fancied he would do so.

Today I've been working at the Waistcoat, and should very soon finish it, if I were only able to sit to it for any time.

Poor Bessie! such kind letters have come to her from home – and all of her friends think she is getting well! So much for the kindness of people telling them she was recovering!

M^{rs} Power gives a dance tomorrow evening, and I believe several persons are coming over from Launceston to attend it.

Sometimes I fancy my illness is Decline, for I'm always planning what I will do when I get better = then again I too well know what the origin was, and know very well there is now no cure for it – and all caused from over delicacy. (Shall I say False?)

The Rattler is expected every day; I hope [229] she may come before I leave, as I anticipate a box by Captain Goldsmith, containing the Plate I sent for.

I wonder if Baxter will object very much to my returning here in February or March? it certainly will be lonely for him in the bush without me = but positively I'm too ill to be worried by him; and now that he has good servants – he can do without me. I will advance him money too, and so put him in humour!

12th Sunday – M^r Dry, D^r Hadley & Captain Denison have just left, and a short time before, Miss Buckland; they all dined with us. The former looks ill, and I’m sure is so, at heart! Captⁿ Denison speaks through his nose, is not nice looking = and puts himself into most provoking attitudes; I do’nt like what I’ve seen of him.

William goes tomorrow to New Norfolk, and drives M^r Maine & M^r Watt up there.

Miss Buckland dined here yesterday, and [230] we had some guitar music in the evening

I was angry this afternoon about Annie, and vexed that William should [be] so absurdly “taken up” by M^{rs} Roberts’ society to forget even his own child = for he promised Louis to take him out this afternoon, and never came until after 5 o’clock. ‘Tis a thing I never did, or ever do, let me have whatever influence I might have with any man = to cause him to neglect those near him, in any way. He says she seldom speaks – so their time must pass pleasantly in other ways, for he is constantly there.

D^r MacWharrie sat some time today with Louis; he was however glad to get away I think, as he left without shaking hands, and did not come to dinner, altho’ he said he would yesterday.

Miss Burnett was with me some part of the afternoon yesterday, and gave me a description of M^{rs} Power’s Dance, which went off well.

M^r Elliott is ordered to Adelaide, and in [231] consequence au désespoir!²² Some seem to insinuate that he is not so very sorry to go! M^r Montgomerie will be here tomorrow, and I shall know from him how my dear old friend Robert Massie is.

And now it is very late, so I must go to bed.

13th Monday. William left for New Norfolk this morning, and will not be back until tomorrow. After Miss Buckland left last night, one of the gentlemen came over from his seat opposite, and sat so very close to me on the sofa, that his head nearly touched my shoulder several times; I saw a cloud on another’s brow, and really was not sorry at it —altho’ I know well what a proud person will feel without uttering a complaint! I like D^r Hadley, he reminds [me] of poor D^r Mollison = his voice is so like his! He has just sent me “Monte Cristo”.

Louis has been twice with me already this morning, to remind me of his promise to go to D^r MacWharrie’s; so I presume he must.

²² In despair (French).

[232] I dreamt this morning that I was riding “Daft Jamie”, and in full canter we came to a hidden Wambat-hole – how I got out of it I do’nt know nor do I remember any more than my wishing to know where my pet was.

I was looking over my old journal kept in Port Macquarie, and it recalled a great deal of trouble & vexation felt whilst there: yet it was such a sweet, romantic place, and I could then ramble about, and climb over the beautiful Mountains near the hut.

I sometimes think of the day on which that odious woman Maria gave me the hint as to what — was doing, his liking for the black girl; and her coming and asking me to go to the Dairy from whence I saw what she had told me was Truth! What young woman, I was only 21, would like to be placed in my situation? at the time too just recovering from what has never since entirely left me —

People may say what they please about a [233] Woman never leaving her husband’s bed, (as M^{rs} Cox did of me,) but I hold totally different ideas on the affair. I’ve never but the once named it to him; I’ve never upbraided him with anything I’ve felt, excepting his temper, yet I’m called “unforgiving”, “Ice-like”, in fact everything that is what I am not!

In the midst of my writing this morning, in walked D^r MacWharrie, and of course his eye immediately caught this unfortunate book! He looked, and was so good-tempered, that I had scarcely the heart to say “No” to his wish to look at some few passages in it; and what he did, or did not see, is to me a secret.

I was going up to change my dress, when M^r Dry came, so I remained until after luncheon = D^r MacWharrie then took Louis with him, and just as M^r Dry commenced reading to me “Monte Cristo”, the Misses Burnett were announced. After they left, we went into the drawing room, as it was so sunny, and the reading was resumed.

[234] Louis’ friend brought him home in the afternoon; and M^r Dry left just before dinner, so I’ve been alone this evening.

An English vessel in today, but does not bring very late news; it appears to me that I shall never get any more letters from home! Miss M. Burnett amused me by saying, when I asked her to enquire at the Post Office for any letters for me “Yes! I’ll ask; you see such white hands there, when the shutter is opened”! She and her sister are to come tomorrow morning and sit with me.

It is getting late = I.H.P.A.H.A. – P.K! H.K.S.N.B.M.C; A.H.F. It! –

D^r Hadley passed with M^{rs} Dawson & Miss Scott; the former riding Miss Buckland's horse. I must coax the Doctor to let me ride, for I feel as tho' I really wanted exercise.

14th Tuesday – Yesterday morning I was so very nervous, and in so much pain, but in the afternoon I went to hear the Band and altho' it excited me a good deal, still the brightness [235]²³ of the day did me good I think.

M^{rs} Smith paid me a visit, and offered to take the Misses Burnett to the Band, they having been here for some time; M^{rs} & Miss Burgess & Miss Scott came in on their way to the Barracks, and the former went out and asked M^{rs} Smith to take me with them – which she kindly consented to do.

The Cab returned for me, as I could not get ready in time, and I was half pleased with the Music; some airs they play well, others very tamely indeed. One, in particular, a sweet tune from “La fille, du Régiment”, which appears to me to be capable of so much accentuation, this they played very so-so!

Archdeacon and M^{rs} Marriott called; the latter looks the same as ever; – perhaps she — — not here, be it remarked! He is all out in spots, and looks very sleepy. M^r Dry came in at 5 o'clock, and ~~says~~ said²⁴ he has been very busy all day writing; he remained until dinner, and then left.

William returned from New Norfolk in the afternoon, and was [236] very wrath at having been ordered to New Norfolk – such things never having been done when Col. Victor was in command! But his way of preventing the orders in future, was rather good! He kept the book in his room locked up.

He went out to M^r Maine's in the evening, and D^r MacWharrie came soon after, and stayed ~~soon after~~ some time = at first, he was inclined to sleep, having been up late the previous night; = but afterwards quite awoke! He seems to entertain a very erroneous opinion of me, by what he told me; such things are only remedied by time.

D^r Hadley & M^r Montgomerie called this morning, before I was down stairs; I saw them tho' from my window, & think the latter much stouter than when I last saw him.

16th Thursday. M^r Dry was my first visitor this morning; he was called away, but returned to luncheon = William then came in from the Office, and told me D^r Hadley & M^r Montgomerie would [237] be here immediately to eat some cold beef, & he had

²³ Unpaginated in original.

²⁴ “Said” is inserted as superscript above “~~says~~” in original.

scarcely said so, when in they came. I was very glad to see my old friend again, he reminded me of so much “auld lang syne”.

They sat a long time, when the three walked off; and William, to play at Rackets with Captⁿ Denison; (who by the way sent me a nice salad this morning!) Miss Buckland sat an hour with me, part of which the gentlemen were here, and being alone at dinner, she promised to come in, but did not do so until 7 o’clock. M^r Dry came in after dinner and remained until 10 o’clock, so he was pleased with Miss Buckland singing during that time. She has a very sweet voice, but wants expression; her voice in speaking is strikingly melodious, yet a variation in that even, would please more. She is a most praiseworthy, good creature, in the way in which she toils for her family, for it is nothing else but toil.

[238]17th Friday. Feeling much better this morning I wrote a note to D^r MacWharrie, asking him to accompany me for a ride, if he thought it would not hurt my knee; but when he came, he appeared quite vexed & astonished at my asking such a thing! Whether he does not like to go with me, or what other reason he may have I cannot imagine = but I only regret having annoyed him in any way, and shall not go at all.

It is awkward being unable to explain minutely why I must, if possible, go over to Port Fairy, as it would tell more than most persons could imagine Man capable of; of this I’m certain, if I do not go, I shall be in less than twelve months a beggar, & worse. Why, is inexplicable!

William returned from dining at M^r McLean’s about ½ past 10 o’clock, and came into my room to talk until nearly 12; he is knowing in this, and fancies the water for my feet will get cold, & then I shall not use it!

[239] He is dining at the Mess this evening, so is M^r Dry – who has been kindly reading one of Southey’s poems to me this afternoon. M^r & M^{rs} Davies are at the Bishop’s, and William called on them just before dinner. Maria says that Tom is looking very ill; he comes from a land of dissipation, where no doubt, he found the good folks too “fast”. She is coming in to see me.

M^{rs} Booth called, and entered into such high eulogisms of D^r MacWharrie that I was quite delighted with her.

M^{rs} Roberts was absent on horseback all the day, at least William was told this when he went up there this afternoon; he has not seen her since Sunday last, as he said she behaved badly on that day. Poor little woman, I’m sorry for her, altho’ I do’nt, or ever shall, like her.

We were speaking of New Norfolk & its fair attractions, when the Misses S—e were named; I was told that the elder disgusting girl [240] will of a morning when dressing, take off her Night dress and stand perfectly naked before anybody who may be in the room; and when her sister told her she should be ashamed doing such a thing, she quietly remarked “Well, you can all look the other way, if you do’nt wish to see me”!

Why my bathing apparel is better than this! and really I think with Marion that it is most becoming.

Poor Bessie has been dead two months today it appears much longer to me, I suppose from being so unwell all the time. I miss her a great deal more than those who appeared fond of her; this however, is my nature. I never feel very keenly at first, but do so after a time.

M^{rs} Booth said to me today “They say you are nervous! really I cannot believe it; and cannot pity you on this score”! Strange people think because I’m not frightened, that I can have no nerves at all!

[241] 21st Tuesday – On Saturday I was gratified with a ride, at last! and my kind friend D^r MacWharrie accompanied Louis & myself; it must have been very slow, in more ways than one, as I could not go out of a walk.

Mess^{rs} Drake & Dry dined with us on that day, and M^r Roberts came in the evening, when being very fatigued, I pleaded this as an excuse, and retired to my own room.

On Sunday morning I went to church, and heard dear M^r Davies preach. By the bye Maria called on me yesterday when I was out, which I much regret.

William accompanied D^r Hadley & M^r Dry to M^r Gregson’s on Sunday, where he remained until late; I however, secured very good company, and was only thinking of going to bed when William returned at 11 o’clock. Instead of leaving, D^r MacWharrie stayed talking until some time after. He was not here yesterday.

I went out to call on Maria, but the dust [242] was so terrible I could not face it – and I returned, after which William & Louis went for a canter down the Sandy Bay Road. Miss Buckland dined with us, and Richard Dry came in after dinner; the latter talks of leaving this evening for Launceston.

On Friday is my birthday, and M^r Davies and Maria have promised to come and pass Saturday, Sunday & Monday with us.

I returned all the good folks calls on Monday, so I'm "free" for some time to come; amongst other calls, we paid a visit to M^{rs} Burgess, and as we were going up the Avenue we overtook M^{rs} Roberts walking, and Miss Allport on her poney. To my surprise the former never paid me the slightest attention – and it is so absurd, as the "whim" is in consequence of Annie's return home last Sunday. Poor little woman! she may play these tricks on William, but I am not quite so blind! – –

[243] This morning William started for Port Arthur, and immediately after, I went down into the Town to see Williams about a Piano for Saturday: it was I fear, to no purpose however.

D^r MacWharrie came, and vexed me very considerably about this book; he remained to luncheon, and was horrified at the immense quantity of Crayfish which I eat: We had just finished luncheon, when D^r Hadley & M^r Dry came = the former to ask me to ride to the Government Gardens & hear the Band. I could not go as the Misses Burnett were to pass the afternoon with me, and besides which M^r Dry was going to remain too. He looks so ill, that I think he has had a rebuff from M^{rs} K—y, whom he evidently admires, and whom he says is "Good, as well as pretty"! Yes! she can perhaps give him a pout as she might be expecting her husband home;= but she did [244] not mind carrying on a Flirtation with a man who when asked why he so often visited the house, proposed to her sister! These are your good persons!

I would rather sin, and leave my punishment to my God = than sin from the heart, and injure a sister! But laissez aller,²⁵ is the better motto.

M^r Dry remained to dinner with us, and finished "Thalaba", which was very kind as he had such a head-ache; he left early. The Misses Burnett remained until 11 o'clock, and we had considerable laughter about songs, etc. M^r Davies luncheoned with us yesterday and amused me in the way which he got William to subscribe to the "Hutchin's School". He says Tom Lyttleton is not at all well.

M^{rs} E. Willis brought me a note from Margaret McLeod, in which she says they will be sadly disappointed if I do'nt go to see [245] them, as I intended; I fear I must now forego that pleasure.

M^r Montgomerie has bought "Ranger", but will soon I understand sell him.

My knee is very painful tonight, & I can easily account for it, as it was hurt today.

²⁵ Let it happen (French).

I wrote to M^{rs} Maclean & M^{rs} Dawson asking them and their Spouses to dinner on Saturday; they have accepted the invite, and the Dawsons invited us there on Tuesday the 28th inst. Alas! that date is still too vivid in my mind to go out to dinner! We do not easily forget a Man giving his life for us! – At least I cannot, altho’ perhaps not as “good” as some.

27th Monday. On Saturday D^r MacWharrie sat a little time with me, but took fright at M^r & M^{rs} Davies; he half promised to come in the evening, but did not do so. From Tuesday night until Friday, I was truly [246] wretched, and in consequence of bad temper, which I regret to say I give way to, made a rash promise = and will abide by it.

M^r Dry with whom I had a misunderstanding came up on Friday, and I apologized to him: I’m always so vexed with myself when I annoy him, he is so thoroughly amiable.

D^r Hadley and M^r Montgomerie sat with us for three hours, and it being my birthday the former kindly sent me a beautiful Moss Rose & the continuation of the bottle!

I went for a ride with them the day previous and called on M^{rs} Twiss. I rode D^r Hadley’s mare, but she was terribly lame, and my ride did me more harm than good of course.

M^r & M^{rs} Maclean, M^r & M^{rs} Davies & D^r & M^{rs} Dawson dined with us on Saturday, and in the evening Misses Buckland & Burnett & Mess^{rs} Montgomerie, Dry & D^r Hadley came in. I fancied it very “slow”, but Miss Burnett says not.

‘Twas a shame to ask me to sing, when they know how very nervous I am lately; yet it was the only [247] chance I had of getting others to do so, so I commenced. I can scarcely imagine a more painful thing than forcing oneself to appear merry, when not so; however they say it was a pleasant evening, so I’m content.

William was at Port Arthur from last Tuesday until Friday evening; he returned then, notwithstanding the heavy rain, as it was my birthday and in the evening went to D^r Hadley’s to a rubber at whist.

On Sunday William drove Maria & I to church in the morning, when M^r Davies preached a most excellent sermon – the sermon was to call a re-action in favor of the building funds for the Hutchins’ school; the text, very appropriate “Lo, children are an heritage from the Lord”!

We dined at 2 o’clock as M^r Davies had to preach again in the afternoon, and he & M^r Dry walked down to that service.

In the evening William drove Maria & I to church, and then returned home himself. As Maria [248] and M^r Davies were to go to the Bishop's in the evening, Martin brought me down the phaeton and Miss Burnett returned with me; she stayed to tea.

29th Wednesday. Yesterday William dined with D^r & M^{rs} Dawson, and on his return home fell in with a man who was very imprudent, & whom he gave in charge to a constable; he had just nicely secured him, when a woman stuck her nails into his face! 'Twas a polite attention that could have been dispensed with, but ladies are sometimes so personal in their little attentions! Vive la sexe!²⁶ –

He started by the Coach this morning for Ross, and will be home tomorrow night. M^r Dry sat a short time with me this morning. Tonight the Ball takes place at D^r Bedford's hospital, and it is thought that it will be well attended.

D^r & M^{rs} Dawson called, and had the odious little dog with them; it is too bad to bring such a dirty creature into one's house, it does not [249] know how to behave! No little dogs do! – M^{rs} de Winton too came in for a short time.

D^r Hadley & M^r Montgomerie came for me to ride, and M^{rs} Roberts joined our party. We looked at the Regiment going thro' some drill in the paddock, and heard the Band. The ride was very slow, as it hurts my leg to canter much, but my companion is so very gentlemanly & like dear D^r Mollison, that the time passed pleasantly.

As we were returning I said I would like to see the Ball room, and accordingly I dismounted; after paying the rooms a visit, I came down to proceed with my ride, but no! Waverly differed in this, and would not let me near him, so after collecting a crowd of idlers, a Cab was procured, and into it I got: my companions riding by the side of the vehicle like a Guard of honor, & D^r Hadley kindly leading Waverly.

They may say what they please about propagating the human species, but I certainly felt [250] exceedingly inclined to annihilate a few of the little dirty brats who came gaping at my horse & frightening him today!

M^{rs} Davies, M^r & M^{rs} Maclean & Miss Buckland called today whilst I was out. M^r Davies came when I was at dinner, and says Maria wishes me to send Annie to stay over at the Parsonage for some months; it is very kind.

To my surprise, I was sitting by myself when in came D^r MacWharrie this evening; I had given John and Ann leave to go and see the good folks at the Ball, so I should have been alone. He remained until 11 o'clock, notwithstanding my urgent

²⁶ Live the sex [females?] (French = *Vive le sexe*).

requests for him to go, and which he must have thought very rude; but had he known my true reason, I think he would have gone sooner: the canter was too much for me, and I felt so ill, and was so until later.

30th Thursday. This morning answered D^r Aplin's letter, and hope it may have to follow him to England, as he will do no good out in this part of the Globe.

[251] I do believe I've never mentioned having had a letter from Baxter; I received it on Wednesday, and it is in his usual strain when I'm away. Oh! what I would give were we only both free! I would never marry again.

He never mentions his present to M^r Baxter, he knows he has behaved ill doing so. N'importe²⁷ he may do anything he pleases, I'm quite callous to all & every treatment. It is indeed strange how far better the wicked prosper in this world than the good! It appears singular too, that those who are beloved, should be the most punished! It is truly a mystery.

3rd [December] Sunday – Yesterday I was told that some gentleman from Port Fairy was waiting to see me; so imagining anybody but M^r Macgregor I walked into the drawing room & found him there. He came over in the Essington, and as he left in haste, had very little news for me.

By him I regret to learn that poor M^r Cox is so ill with his leg; it is likely to prove troublesome to him, if ever he recover the use of it, even. [252] I must write to him, to give him a quiz = it may revive his drooping spirits.

The Regatta took place on Friday, the first of the month, and the good people all appeared to be entertained with their various entertainments. Miss Buckland passed the day with me, and at 11 o'clock D^r Hadley and M^r Dry sat some time with us; they then went up to William's room, then returned again, and looked as tho' they were not certain as to whether they would go or stay = and M^r Dry told me today that he had almost determined on staying the day with us.

D^r MacWharrie came at 2 o'clock for me, and we rode out to the Regatta ground, but we could not get leave to go inside as we were on horses. We saw a little of the sport, & a "Port Phillip" bullock chasing the townsfolk to the terror of all, excepting a small woman who was excessively tipsy. The day was very tiresome in itself, sometimes so sunny, and at others so showery; 'twas all the same to me!

²⁷ Never mind (French).

[253] There was a Pic-Nic in the opposite side of the Bay to which our friends went and took poor Louis with them, from the effects of which he has not yet recovered.

In the evening the Misses Burnett came in, and said that there was a drunken man on the door steps, and they thought he would come in as he was calling for my brother. John went to him & said William was out = and soon after we heard a noise as tho' stones were being thrown at the Bed room window; when we ran out to see what was the matter, we descried the gentleman trying to make his way across the street, and upon being asked why he pelted the window he answered "One blackguard action deserves another, tell Captⁿ Hadden". It was M^r Beauvois, and this conduct was from being told that William had tripped him up at the Regatta, which was not the case, so he apologized most amply for his misdemeanor!

Yesterday morning William asked me if I would [254] go for a ride, and upon my saying I did not care about it, he requested I would as he had promised Waverly to M^{rs} Roberts, and he did not wish her to have him; I said very well, and off he went to his office. At 2 o'clock I saw him going up the hill, and D^r MacWharrie who came in soon after, kindly offered to accompany me at 3 = we waited, and no William came, until nearly 4 o'clock, when he rode up with M^{rs} Roberts & Miss Allport, the former on his horse: he asked if I would take Peter and go with them, but I refused.

When he returned he was so sorry, and said that he had tried every means of getting off the ride, but Miss Allport would not be put off! Rather a nice, Colonial young Lady!

Mess^{rs} Watt & Maine dined with us yesterday, and M^r Dry & D^r Hadley came in the evening; When the former of these two arrived, the other four were playing at whist, so he sat down by my side and talked away, so agreeably, as he always does = he was telling me that he had [255] not gone to the Fancy Fair ⁱⁿ the morning, & said the reason was, his spirits were so bad!

Whilst I was laughing at this, M^r Maine rose and said D^r Hadley could take his seat, but the latter declined as he did not care about playing = in this he was over-ruled, and M^r Maine came to sit by me. He was so noisy that William quite lost his temper and said M^r Dry was listening to our conversation, instead of thinking of his game; accordingly I said Good Night to the "folks", and came up to my room.

M^r Dry called today after luncheon, and D^r Hadley almost about the same time; I really like this person, he reminds me so much of D^r Mollison. It appears he gave

William a good scolding after I left for sending me out of the room – which he most effectually did of a certainty!

Miss Buckland came & chatted some time with me; we were speaking principally of her own affairs, and she was asking me if I did [256] not think it would be wrong in her to marry M^r Fleming knowing the feelings she had for him? Would could I say?²⁸ excepting, that she was the best judge of her own feelings, and she better than any other could tell if in time she could conquer these = else, what would life be worth to her?

Ah! if I could only have half expressed my bitter trials & miseries from the same, how she would shudder! It is impossible to conceive (unless felt) the dreadful disgust & repugnance I feel at the very sight of the man whom I vowed to love! What mockery to promise to love! And then the horror of being subjected to the ordeal of a married life! The very touch of a man's hand that I dislike, makes me feel such thorough sickness and disgust – instead of those intoxicating, truly heavenly thrills felt for one we love, if only in looking or thinking on them! Poor woman! I could never tell her the horrors of not loving the one we should; or au contraire.

[257] William was out all the afternoon as usual; John drove me to, and from church this morning; as my brother was too sleepy to rise.

Just as we were going to dinner, M^r Dry passed and told us he would come if we had any – so in he came. The gentlemen remained in the dining room until after 9 o'clock; and then we had a discussion on nervous systems, etc.

Somehow M^{rs} C. Friend's name was mentioned and I said what I really knew and thought of her = M^r Dry espoused her cause as he does any pretty woman's, and as usual, showed that she had once been a "flame" of his! I then spoke of M^{rs} Miller, whom it was well-believed he carried on an intrigue with; and after William left the room, he was quite vexed with me and said that I ~~sh~~ spoke "advisedly" what I had, & that it was better we should understand each other better for the future! This will not do – 'tis a poor excuse for him.

[258] The "Windermere" came in last night, and M^{rs} Belchier in her. William has his promotion too, of which I'm very glad.

²⁸ Accurate transcription.

There is a dance at M^{rs} Roberts' tomorrow night. I shall not go. D^r Hadley & McWharrie are coming here to tea, and M^r Dry said he would likewise, but so he did last time!

7th Thursday. On Monday M^{rs} Roberts gave a dance, and I believe it went off very well, William went to it, but I remained at home, & had the pleasure of D^r Hadley's company. He improves vastly on acquaintance, and is very agreeable.

Tuesday morning M^r Dry came to sit with me, and told me of poor Tom Landale's death on board the "Rattler", about six weeks after sailing; This vessel came in the night before, and that is the reason why he did not come to see me. Poor fellow! he was sadly cast down, as Tom was his favorite; and he was very fond of him.

How handsome he looked once during his visit when he became excited on a favorite topic! [259] He went to Launceston in the evening Coach, and I shall not see him again for some time. I went to call at Boa Vista in the afternoon, but Maria was from home; I however, had given my notes to Miss Buckland to give her, so I was all right.

D^r Hadley & Louis were with me, and we returned home after going to the "Ship Inn" to enquire for our friend M^r Dry. We found him engaged dining with M^r & M^{rs} Barrow, so we left him to his glory.

We came in during a shower, and Misses M. Scott, Burgess & Fenton ~~accompa~~ paid me a visit; when the shower finished, we went for such a nice canter on the Lands – & had such a glorious laugh at D^r Hadley! He was saying that he liked to ruminate of a morning in bed, if he had an agreeable comp—, subject, to amuse him! He does laugh so heartily, it does one good to hear him! In the evening Miss Burnett came, and D^r Hadley dined with us; It was such [260] a windy, wet night, that I made Miss Burnett remain, and gave her my bed; I took William's and he came down stairs.

Yesterday she remained all day with me, & last evening as William went out to see Billiards played, she had nobody to take her home, so I again gave her my bed, and I this time did not like turning dear William out again of his bed, and accordingly laid myself down on a mattress before the fire, with an Opossum rug for my coverlid! Eh! bien. I almost fancied myself in the bush, and actually woke up saying "Why will you annoy me"?

This morning Miss Burnett left soon after breakfast, and I then set my "room" in order! What a strangely fastidious person I am! = I cannot endure the idea of sleeping with, or even in the same room as a person with either black or red hair! there is

something to me so very overpowering in their presence. This morning I opened the window immediately I got out of bed, and did not return to my couch to [261] ruminate. D^r Hadley sat a short time with me, and we have promised to go for a ride today with Misses Scott, Burgess & Fenton at ½ past 3 o'clock; I am to ride M^{rs} Dawson's horse, and M^{rs} Roberts is going to accompany us, too.

William had a letter from Mina, and I am doomed to be disappointed, for Harriet has forgotten to send me my box. I'm quite a Philosopher, & put up with all these little annoyances famously.

D^r MacWharrie has not been to see me since Tuesday, and then I was just going to ride; he gave me a plaster for my back composed principally of BellaDonna, and yesterday it caused me much uneasiness & drowsiness.

I've finished "Monte Cristo", but altho' I like the work altogether, I do'nt admire his not marrying poor Mercedes.

On dit, Miss Fenton is again requested by Captⁿ Gregg to become his! I envy them both!

[262] 8th Friday Baxter's 35th birthday = In the afternoon Mistresses E. Bedford & Roberts, and D^r Hadley & William accompanied me for a ride; we went to the Domain, and soon fell in with the Deer = away they bounded immediately they caught sight of us, and the dogs did not get a proper scent of them. D^r Hadley who was riding M^{rs} Dawson's horse, went off at full speed, & appears a thorough sportsman! William was on Peter, and went the wrong track, so did not see the deer at all. I followed D^r Hadley for a short distance & then pulled up to a trot; in going down the hill I struck against a tree, and feeling rather faint made me stop altogether for a time. When I recovered myself, I gave a coo-e, which was soon returned, and I saw above me Mistresses Roberts, E. Bedford & William.

We came home, and in the evening M^r & M^{rs} de Winton, M^r & M^{rs} E. Bedford, Misses Burnett & Buckland, Mess^{rs} Montgomerie, Smith & D^r Hadley came in. M^r Smith is one of the 99th, and a most amusing [263] person in his way, which is singing "Ethiopian melodies" = he does this in excellent style; and is such a queer looking little person, that it enhances the effect of the singing. He is very near-sighted, very ugly, very comical looking! I should say more snobbish in appearance than Horace Flower, even; but is he, I wonder equally clever and entertaining?

M^{rs} de Winton sang a song, and has such a fine voice, altho' very nervous; she looked so pretty, and speaks so softly. Miss Mary Ann Burnett tried a song, but is more faltering than even I am.

D^r MacWharrie has not been here much lately but today he came, and kindly set the poor puppy's leg, which was broken in the morning by the poney stepping on it. I asked him to come in the evening, but nothing can make him the better of his shyness in society.

Last Saturday M^r Macgregor came to see me and told me some little news from our Port; he started in such a hurry that he did not [264] see Baxter. He tells me M^r J. Cox is very ill, and it is doubtful whether he will recover the use of his leg; how very sad for him, poor soul! and especially as he cannot be nursed by the woman he loves = altho' perhaps it is better that he now find out his wife's fondness of him, notwithstanding his neglect of her. It is indeed a bitter thing to be tied to one we cannot esteem.

D^r Aplin is going home in about three weeks; how sadly disappointed he will be at not seeing me again before he goes; it will at all events prove whether what I said of him, & to him, be true or not, altho' in my heart I believe I wronged him: I may meet with many, many friends in the World, but never one more sincere or affectionate.

And actually I am at the close of my book nearly: I think it almost the most interesting of any – perhaps from its being so private.

By the bye I had a note today from Maria [265] in which she very quietly [gave] a hint about the height of the shoulders of my dresses. I lent her one to go to M^{rs} Hampden's in, and she tells me it would have fitted her well, only it was "rather lower on the shoulders than she generally wore them". She is a dear little creature and I do'nt mind her giving me a lecture.

When I called the other day at Boa Vista the Bishop told Maria he would so much like to know me, I had such a happy face! and said he supposed the reason I did not go in was that M^{rs} Nixon had never called on me. C'est vrai.²⁹

Mess^{rs} Maine, Watts & Faithfull called today; Captain Denison has never yet had the politeness to do so.

²⁹ It is true (French).

Now then to close this volume, in itself quite a Romance. I frequently wonder who will read these when I'm dead; and often think of bequeathing them to some person, as a memento of as queer a compound of Reason & Madness, as ever existed!

A M Baxter

Notebook 11 (MS. Q 181 Item 11): 10 December 1848 – 18 February 1849 (1 – 65)

Hobart Town

1848

Vol: 15th

[1] 10th December 1848. Sunday. Another & another! It sometimes astonishes even me, to think how I have been so persevering in keeping a journal; and the only reason I can give for it is, that it is my veriest amusement! I can grumble in my book, when I cannot do so to anybody = and what would a woman's life be without a whim or a grumble? –

But how Dame "Fortune" favors me just now! only to imagine there happening to be a Pic-Nic at the moment I wished to commence a new journal! Such a piece of good luck does not occur every day; (neither do Pic-Nics!) and then 'tis the "first of the Season"! Alas! for erring Man! We all believed the weather to be too unsettled for such an al fresco affair, but tried to persuade ourselves that we thought it would be fine. –

Well then, commençons.³⁰ On Friday M^{rs} Burgess agreed to have the party on the morrow – time, 11 o'clock; place – Brown's River; Weapons! – (Ladies 'tongues.) not named. Seconds were not mentioned, as some of us had not got rid of our First, and so the Principal remained to be – – –

Eh bien!³¹ after arranging which of us should take pies, tarts, sausage rolls, etc – we had the pleasure of adding our mite. [2] D^r Hadley came down at 10 o'clock to know when we were going, how, or whether we really were intending it at all? William was in bed, lazy – so I asked his friend to walk up, which he did, and after he came down stairs, I made up my mind I had far rather go for a quiet ride, than to the Pic-Nic. However, the Fates decreed differently, and so we drove to the appointed place, accompanied by D^r Hadley & M^r Smith – (the latter rejoices in the Nickname of "Old Joe"!) Our's was a pleasant little party, and I drove some part of the way which was quite a treat to me. On the road we passed M^r & M^{rs} Burgess, and M^r Drake; the latter was waiting to escort the young ladies on horseback, consisting of Miss Burgess,

³⁰ Let's get started (French).

³¹ Oh well! (French)

Misses M. Scott & Misses Power & Fenton: The Cab was on before, containing Mistresses Bedford & Drake, & Misses Scott and Allport.

We had no rain worth naming on our way down; and drove to M^r Freeman's, where I alighted to see M^{rs} Freeman who had presented her caro sposo with a little boy, some five weeks ago. She looks delicate, and the "sweet pledge" very weakly. Poor little soul! how I wish she were better off = it is such a pity to see so pretty a creature thrown away on the wilds of Tasmania – and with so strange a man [3] to share her fate! Our two *compagnons de voyage*,³² walked on to [the] scene of action, and we drove there; we found M^r Burgess in a most un-Pic-nic-like humour imaginable, and his face truly Bardolph-ian. These are the men for police Magistrates, they carry weight in themselves, and are none of your light, easy folks who care for others opinions more than their own! And after this small *détour*, I'll resume my sketch.

We walked over some rocks, and came to a very snug spot where there was a natural alcove, in which I seated myself, having for [a] pillow the air cushion, and a large boat cloak under me. Then the good people commenced so busily putting out the various eatables; and a table cloth was spread on the flat rocks below where I was sitting. All was so nicely arranged, cucumbers cut, potatoes boiled, curry warmed = when a small boat hove in sight, and the "Dido" came sailing along in the face of a squall! But 'twas Woman's, not Heaven's, breath that caused it! 'twas Miss Burgess cooeing in sweet accents to the obdurate youth on board the little craft! And now to describe the fair girl who thus lost her time & voice! She is rather pétite in figure, but not a "little" plain; she was dressed, disguised I should say in the commencement of a [4] riding Habit; I say this, because she herself allowed she had left the skirt behind! – The dress was very narrow, and she had on a horse-hair petticoat, which naturally seemed anxious to burst the bounds and be free; the dress was too short for the under garment, and when she walked, or turned quickly round, 'twas the most comical looking affair in the world, and impossible to prevent, causing a laugh. Her hat was large, & well fixed at the back of her head, which gave her a *dégagée*³³ look! But as I was saying, she wafted a cooe to M^r Austin (who never heard it) and "held aloft a snow white" handkerchief which was so small that even those happy Beings near to her could scarcely see, much more the person in the boat. – Of a sudden it was suggested that something larger would be better to hold out for a signal, when oh! horrors, one of the

³² Travelling companions (French).

³³ Relaxed/ unconstrained (French).

“Parent-Pic-Nic’s” table cloths was taken, perfectly regardless of the naked appearance it would leave the table in!

Whilst this scene was enacting the rest of the party joined us = Miss M. Scott looking so coquettish & pretty; Miss Power so warm as to be obliged to apply (not her eau-de-Cologne) her handkerchief to her face! Then came a young Officer of the 99th (whose name I cannot spell, [5] and with whom Miss Fenton is smitten,) stepping along so merrily over the rocks, and never caring an iota for his fair friend – who came toiling on with her long-skirted bright, green habit! He might well sing “The girl I’ve left behind me”, for he never looked again at her, & to me seemed like “the soldier tired of maiden’s charms”.

We were going to luncheon, when up rode Mess^{rs} Johnson, Power; and soon after Major Smigly and Captⁿ Pratt. Before these last arrivals however such a heavy shower of rain came down, and all were glad to come into my parlour, excepting by the way, D^r Hadley & M^r Burgess. Such a clearance of pies took place tho’, and I think a few buns were the only victims to rain.

After the shower had passed, or fallen rather, some of our inmates moved out, and disposed themselves in picturesque groups = par exemple: Misses Power & Fenton sat on a rock at some distance with their plates on their laps, and doing the amiable to M^r Johnson who was rushing about to accomplish their wishes.

M^r Burgess had found some curry to his liking, and was taking advantage of it = he was almost happy, when my cruel friend D^r Hadley caught up the pepper box, and instead of dusting the cucumber with it, allowed it to escape in the old gentleman’s direction, thereby [6] causing an exceedingly unpleasant twitching of the nose; he did not see what it was for some time.

A second shower came, and I liked it better than the first; one naturally feels more amiable after having had dinner, which I had indulged in. There was a tolerable collation, and all seemed very correctly merry. Soon after the meal was over, all went away with the exception of D^r Hadley & myself, who sat amused spectators of the “packing up”, which was going on at a short distance from us. M^{rs} Drake lost one fork; all the spoons were there!

All pleasant things must end, so after giving, & receiving a “kiss”, I mounted Napoleon, and my kind friend led him over the rocks; at the same time I expect wishing me & my horse far off!

I took a short promenade à cheval,³⁴ and returned & sat on the cloaks, when Mess^{rs} Balis & Smith had a chat with me; William, who was smoking, came up & directed the former gentleman's attention to Miss Fenton, whom M^r Austin was assisting in the most gallant manner to put on horseback; it was quite amusing to see how tiresome the stirrup was, – it would not be arranged! The two gentlemen went away with their basket, and soon [7] joined the lady on horseback. All the rest of the party had sauntered on towards the Inn where their horses were; Our voiture³⁵ came shortly, and in we got. As we were turning the corner from the Beach to the road, we espied M^r Austin and Miss Fenton some way on the Beach = and really I was thinking she would have done well to go in the 'Dido' with her attendant. She followed us, and joined the other Equestrians. We remained at M^r Freeman's only time enough to drink his health, and allow him to return the compliment, and then went on; as we were going up the hill we observed Miss Fenton very much on one side, and shortly after, off she came. I cannot endure to see another fall = I would rather do so my self – I then know how much I'm hurt! and besides which I'm used to it. She was only frightened, poor girl; and got on her horse again and rode home. Immediately all the people had left the carriage, I set to work crying = and I had regularly to struggle to prevent feeling most unpleasantly hysterical.

I could not help observing the different way in which different persons acted! Evidently, none of the "dark [8] fair sex" liked the young lady, for they all took the accident so tamely! Oh! for a feeling, responsive heart! Give me this, and I care not what other qualities may be wanting; yet I too well know what a misery it is to the person who has it. Miss Power came riding back and said in a boisterous voice, at the same time pulling up her horse "What are they staying there all day for? She is not hurt I suppose"! and then having said this, cantered off.

We reached home in good time, and thanks to Miss Buckland's red jacket, I felt none the worse for the cold wind; by the bye, this article of dress is most comfortable and almost becoming; it is quite Bandit-looking in its way.

William walked up to M^{rs} Roberts' for Louis: & D^r Hadley & M^r Smith remained with the promise of having something to eat = this was not to be; John cannot endure giving anything unless in proper style, and as he was rather a long time in effecting this, M^r Smith went off to get ready for the finale to the "day" = which was a

³⁴ Horse-ride (French).

³⁵ Vehicle (French).

Polka at M^{rs} Drake's. D^r Hadley went away with the little man, and returned soon after = when he [9] kindly passed the evening with me.

William went up to M^{rs} Drake's, and had a very pleasant hour or two; it being Saturday night, "Sweethearts & Wives" retired earlier than they would have done = and those happy people who had either the one or the other, were left to ruminate on them!!

—

And so the day passed, and to me pleasantly; it is some time since I've felt so amiably disposed to Mankind in general, as this day. 'Twould be a good thing if it had the effect always of improving one's mood = but unfortunately with the sweets, come the bitters!

10th Sunday. This morning I certainly felt more disposed to remain in bed than to get up, but I said to myself "if you are well enough to go to Pic-Nics, you are able to go to Church" = so up I got, and John drove me to there. Instead of the Bishop preaching, M^r Tancred did, and I do'nt like his sermon, at all. D^r Hadley came like a good Samaritan, and gave me his arm down the aisle; John was waiting for me. As we were going up Davey Street, we ~~met~~ passed the soldiers going "double quick", as it was raining heavily; [10] The men seemed to like it, but the Officers did not face the hill so well. "There was Old Joe kicking up before & behind", and looking so very queer; We nearly drove over Col: Jackson, & he rushed against a dog, which dog nearly upset M^r Montgomerie. M^r Smith had to fall back; he could not manage the Rise; He has a peculiar method of running = the one part of his body appears to be cantering, whilst the other is trotting.

11th Monday. D^r Hadley dined with us yesterday and Miss Buckland came in just as we were finishing that meal; they both left at 10 o'clock. William walked out with them, & did not return until 4 o'clock this morning; he had been sitting with Mess^{rs} Maine & Faithfull. It is such a pity the dear fellow remains up so late at night; it will ruin his eyes.

In the morning I was so busy, doing every sort of thing, and the children went to M^{rs} Dunn's at 1 o'clock to dinner; D^r Hadley called, and he and M^r Montgomerie accompanied us at 3 to ride. I enjoyed my ride so much, & am gloriously tired tonight. William is dining up at M^r J. Dunn's and I was busy writing, when D^r MacWharrie came in [11] and sat a short time. He asked me for my Chloroform, to try it on D^r Motherwell – so I gave it to him. He is always so kind in his manner to me, and I do like him excessively = I shall never cease to remember his attention to me.

It is exactly 12 o'clock, so away I go to bed! I've written to Harriet; & shall do so to M^r J. Smith tomorrow.

15th Friday. This evening there was to be an entertainment at the "Circus", so William determined on taking Louis, M^{rs} Roberts, and Miss Maclean; Miss Burnett & D^r Hadley dined with us, and were to have accompanied the good folks to the Circus = but they altered their minds, and remained with me instead, of which I was very glad. Miss Buckland too came in and sang so nicely nearly all the evening

As John & Anne had gone to the entertainment, I had only the old carpenter to do waiter; and Miss Burnett and I officiated, assisted by D^r Hadley. We passed the evening very tolerably, and my friends did not leave until 11 o'clock. I had a letter this morning from Maria, in which she tells me that Tom will be over by the Friday Coach – that is today.

16th Saturday. At 10 o'clock, Captain Goldsmith and D^r [12] Hadley came, and soon after we all started for New Norfolk; I drove after the first 9 miles; and we reached our destination about 1 o'clock. We drove to the Archdeacon's as arranged before, and at 3 had dinner. M^{rs} Marriott looks very pretty, and as well as ever I saw her looking, altho' in such deep distress about her servants, whom she cannot manage to keep for any time. She amused me very much in saying that she could not attend to her birds, and asking the Archdeacon to get one of the men to feed them!

In the afternoon all went out but me, and I made myself useful in copying a song for M^{rs} Marriott whilst they were out; M^{rs} Sharland, M^{rs} Schaw, Miss L. Schaw and the 4 Misses Sharland came up to see me. The former being *en famille*³⁶ looks so ill and weak! Poor little creature, it is really too bad for her to be always either nursing, or having children. How fond men should be of their wives, when they see them suffer so much for their sakes! I asked her if she felt nervous at the approach of another accouchement? She said "Oh! no; I would far sooner have children, than suffer as you do = with a child, it is over, & there is an end of it; but you are always ill"! She is a good mother & wife –

After tea, the sisters sang together several times, and I do [13] like to hear them to do so. I do not imagine that D^r Hadley is smitten with Miss Schaw, for one may always see some token of it = but here there is none. He is so mild & attentive in

³⁶ Pregnant/ In the family way (French).

manner to all; that he might easily be mistaken, & no doubt is so, often: the more I know him, the more I wish to know.

At 10 o'clock, the poney (Napoleon, I mean) came for me, & I rode him, D^r Hadley kindly leading him all the way to the Inn. Such a nice, clean house the "Bush Inn" is; and I had such a delightful bed I passed the night in; it is the one which newly married couples have when they come to pass their "honeymoon" here! H.M.B.I.B—d! ! I went to bed soon after I came in, and enjoyed myself considerably ruminating by light of a rushlight, or something of the sort.

17th Sunday. We had breakfast at ½ past 9 o'clock, and after that William took his cigar with him, & D^r Hadley & I were amused watching the good folks going to church, until the carriage came round for us to go too. It is a very neat little building, and the pew we sat in was carpeted & had a fire place in it; M^{rs} Marriott played the Seraphine, but it is not good toned at all. The Archdeacon performed the [14] service, and altho' I do'nt admire his voice, his sermon was very fair. Major Schaw, who sat in the same pew we did, composed himself and took a Nap; William put Louis' dress to rights continually thereby keeping the child's attention fixed on "things below" instead of "above" = and D^r Hadley nodded his head in good style!

We drove after church to M^{rs} Sharland's, where I remained until past 6 o'clock, when M^{rs} Sharland lent me her poney "Dinah", and I rode to the Inn; D^r Hadley & William walked up at the same time.

Major & M^{rs} Schaw came on Saturday to³⁷ Richmond, and as we passed them on the road, we told M^{rs} Marriott & Miss Schaw that they were coming; the latter directly said how glad she was, and that she felt quite anxious to see her Mother, as she had not done so for a month. William said "Ah! your anxiety to see your Mother becomes a – Parent" (apparent.) "It becomes a child much more", I answered. Now I seldom repeat these small sentences in my book – but this I do consider good!

After dinner, William betook himself to the sofa and snored away the rest of the evening. I took possession of the other sofa, as I felt very tired, and D^r Hadley & I chatted away until late. I was sorry to go to bed, [15] the time was passing so pleasantly. 18th Monday. We breakfasted, and called at the Archdeacon's by 9 o'clock; Captⁿ Goldsmith, Louis & William sat in the front, and M^{rs} Marriott & I behind. Oh! I was so shaken! it is pitiable how I feel for a time, any over-fatigue, and positively I could

³⁷ It is likely that AB meant to write 'from' here, as Major and Mrs Schaw live at Richmond.

scarcely move during the whole evening – not to mention other disagreeables. Miss Buckland & Miss Burnett were here; and Tom too, as mischievous as ever; he sat the whole evening by me, occasionally tickling my feet, or rather, trying to do so. Miss Buckland talks of accompanying him over to Longford on Friday next; so he will not make much stay with us.

19th Tuesday. M^{rs} Marriott went to M^{rs} Maclean's in the afternoon yesterday, and M^r Sharland luncheoned with me at 2 o'clock.

Today M^r Montgomerie & D^r Hadley came down to see me, and ask when we would go for a ride = having decided on doing so at 3 o'clock, they left. "Harold", came for me to the minute, and William & Louis, Mess^{rs} Montgomerie & Lyttleton and D^r Hadley rode round to M^{rs} Maclean' for M^{rs} Marriott; The Archdeacon said however, we had better not stop from the Band, so we proceeded to the Barracks, where there was quite a gay [16] assemblage; The Band was playing, not drawling as in general, and all the World seemed there. M^{rs} Marriott came up with the Archdeacon & William and was delighted with the music. M^{rs} Maclean came soon after, and looked as good humoured as ever. I am always so thoroughly contented when on a good horse, with Ada & another agreeable companion by my side, that the music was only an arc to my pleasure. *Telle est la vie*,³⁸ we forget that any but the present, is!

Tom found himself with Misses Secombe & R. Kemp, and did not go for his ride with us; we did not go far; but had a nice canter, which Harold performed with good temper, altho' pulling a little.

In the evening all went to the Circus, with the exception of Ann & myself; and really it would have been better had I been alone, for she took a "taste too much of the craytur", and after bringing in the tea tray, she went up stairs and to my horror fell headlong against the passage door! I thought at first that she was in a fit, and intended sending for D^r MacWharrie, but when she could speak, she said "Not to night"! this awakened my ideas, and I lifted her up and made her go up stairs = after [17] a time I thought it would be advisable to see if her light were out, when upon going up stairs I found her fast asleep on the stairs. I helped her up to bed then, and placed her on it = when I once more sat myself down to write. I finished a song, and a letter to D^r McTernan, which D^r Morris has promised to take for me to him.

³⁸ Such is life (French).

Louis did not return until after 12 considerably, & then I undressed him, and went to bed myself. William came in about 3 o'clock, and Tom made his entrée³⁹ this morning after the servants were up!

20th Wednesday. Soon after breakfast, Tom drove me out to see M^{rs} E. Willis = we remained there for ½ an hour or so, and then did a little shopping on our way home. We found D^r Hadley here, and he sat with me until nearly 3 o'clock, when he had to go to the Domain with the regiment.

Miss Buckland came in to see me, just after my old acquaintance D^r MacWharrie left the room; he sat here an hour I suppose, & says he does not like to see me so flushed. Miss Burnett came soon after, & remained with me whilst at dinner; Tom was here too, during this meal: He & William dine at the Mess; so I shall not sit up for them tonight.

[18] 21st Thursday. It was rather fortunate that I made the foregoing resolution, for my two worthy friends did not make their return good until early this morning. I cannot imagine how they can sit up night after night as they do! Oh! I should be thoroughly worn out with the existence.

I went in a Cab at 11 o'clock to see M^r Bock, and remained there until nearly 1 = when I sent for a Cab, and such an one came! The Driver's hat was so far *débauché*⁴⁰ that even my eccentricity in these matters could not stand it; = I was foolish enough to be ashamed of being seen in such company, and did actually get out at Sly', when I walked across the street & sat in a shop until a more respectable voiture⁴¹ made its appearance. Again! what a "shocking bad hat" presented itself to my vision; but this time I made up my mind to brave all = so I put my parasol well down before my face, and arrived safely at home, just at one o'clock.

In the afternoon I rode "Harold" with D^r Hadley & Louis, M^{rs} Roberts & Tom started with us, but somehow lost us in a severe cloud of dust – Hélas!⁴² 'tis not the first person lost in such a way – in fact we often hear of our friends being under one, (a cloud!) and [19] this appears to me worse, even. I did like my ride; we went to the Ferry, and there met M^{rs} J. Dunn and M^{rs} Belchier. The latter is grown coarse & "colonial" looking = but not so in manner certainly.

³⁹ Entrance (Fr)

⁴⁰ Debauched (Fr)

⁴¹ Vehicle (Fr)

⁴² Alas (Fr)

Oh! dear me, why can we not choose our own society in this World? how hard because an “unfortunate” does make one rash Vow, that it must always be a check to one’s happiness! Par exemple;⁴³ We find out that we cannot do what we foolishly, nay wickedly promise, that we hate where we should love! = Well! then it is immediately considered wrong to take an interest in any one else – and so we go on – from one misery to another. Happy they who can allow their feelings to be schooled by their situation! I’m convinced they are the happiest. Now, what could M^{rs} Belchier see to love in her poor husband? He told such wo[e]ful fibs that this alone would have disgusted me with him! It is good we should differ in opinion, else the World would soon come to a stand-still; indeed for me, cease to be! — —

We got home a little before 6 o’clock, and soon after, M^{rs} E. H Willis came; she looks much better by candle light, and is well made: (up!) Dresses very fascinatingly – for instance, had on a handsome [20] dress, made for a high stomacher = but she put a low one instead – so that when you stood opposite to her, it looked so modest; and when on either side, or the other, ’twas like Norah Creina’s = “leaving every beauty free”, etc. I remember M^r Macknight telling me that this lady had such a pretty neck. It is quite wonderful how much she improves by candle light, in appearance! She is at present suffering from two complaints – the one rather a serious one, liver complaint; the other much more common, but decidedly more distressing where love is not. This opinion however, is decidedly improper in a young Colony! – so “advance Tasmania”!

I had requested Miss Buckland to dine with us, and she was anxious to do so, but her Mama said it was her last evening at home, and therefore she could not go out; We, however, thinking differently, it was proposed by Thos Lyttleton Esqr and seconded by D^r Hadley that they should go in and bring the lady here! Accordingly they did so, & returned victorious, bringing the demoiselle⁴⁴ under one arm, & her music books under the other. M^r Smith came too, & really sang with considerable éclat;⁴⁵ he does so with so much [21] good-nature & humour, that one must feel gratified. M^{rs} E. Willis returned to her Mother’s at night, but has promised to come in on Friday next, and stay the day. William and Tom both went off with the gentlemen to the Barracks, and as the time for their return is always doubtful, I retired soon to my room.

⁴³ For example (French).

⁴⁴ Young lady (French).

⁴⁵ Splendour (French).

24th Sunday – Tom drove me to church & came home again instead of going inside the building; he was good enough to return for me, and we brought off D^r Hadley with us. Last evening we dined at M^{rs} Maclean's where we found Major & M^{rs} Ainsworth, M^r & M^{rs} Drake, Major Jones, Major Last, D^r Hadley & M^r Montgomerie. I was fortunate enough to be seated next to my great favorite D^r Hadley; I say fortunate, because he is always in a chatty, agreeable humour! and I do like him so much. I do'nt suppose there is any very considerably harm in saying this = if there be, I can only say I'm sorry for it, but shall not alter in my opinion.

Major Jones is a regular "old soldier", and if we did not know how he has managed to preserve his appearance so well, we should be anxious to get [22] [the] recipe from him. The fact is, his body is quite embalmed before it's time, and I've no doubt that (as a soldier should have,) his spirits have been always good!

M^{rs} Ainsworth is a fine looking woman, and must have been very handsome: her eyes & complexion are so good = and she is just the person to attract & kill from 2 to a dozen husbands! Some persons have great luck in this way.

Misses Maclean & Jacombe were in the drawing room when we left the dinner table, and the former is a pleasing looking girl; she has a nice touch on the Piano, and plays with some execution. I was disappointed with the other young lady's appearance, as I had heard she was pretty. During the evening, dancing was carried on with considerable effect, especially by Major Ainsworth, who danced as tho' it were with heart and soul. Now if the truth were known, the time of life at which these good people have come to, is the happiest; they have no anticipations to blight, no petty jealousies to annoy; all that they do, is for themselves, all that they hope is so too!

Oh! Youth is indeed the Spring of life! but how often do the flowers of that beautiful season perish from want of something to retain life; a blight will fall on both – and [23] few of us can think of our early days without feeling sadly! I, for one, would not recall the Spring of my life; and often think of it please God to preserve ~~my~~ me to Autumn. I may by that time have lost the keen as well as highly pleasurable feelings I now possess, and be at least more tranquil, if not exactly happy! This last – I never shall be on Earth = and I fear me, I have made my Heaven too much in imagination ever to find it realized Above, or below. – What sentiments for a Journal. – I lent one of my small books to a friend, and he has derived much amusement from its reading; I would like to let him have the last one, but it would reveal too much, things that may not be known until I cease to be – excepting in Memory.

By the way, I must not forget to note down that on the 18th inst. I dreamt D^r Aplin sailed for England = & that Miss Dickenson was married, and going, likewise. I expect the vision will prove true, for it is about the time he sent me word he was going, unless I promised to go over and say Adieu: this, being done by letter, he will be more than ever anxious to go.

Saturday. Am I not almost ashamed to look at my neglected book, really it is a week since I wrote in it? [24] All I can say is that the days, or the better part of them, pass so pleasantly, it quite makes me lazy – and then there is some ingratitude too in the affair – for I now feel myself independant of my journal for happy moments – that used to be passed in communing with it.

But for the events of the week. On Tuesday we dined at M^r E. Bedford's, in company with D^r Hadley & Mess^{rs} Lloyd & Simpkinson; Misses Scott & Allport came in during the evening, and were a considerable acquisition as they both sing nicely. The latter young lady has had the happiness of gaining the affections of one of the “dark fair sex”, Dinah = and very quaintly observed when Tom told her so, that she believed so, but that he had never expressed himself in such terms to her! Poor M^r Smith! he was quite grieved to learn that he had been sent for to M^r Bedford's, and he away at the Theatre at the time.

On Thursday we rode up to call on M^{rs} Dawson; I say “we”, very naturally, but I mean D^r Hadley & I. He is so kind in taking me out to ride nearly every day, that he is included in the pronoun as much as dear William would be. We found the lady at home, and looking very well = she would have gone to hear the Band play in the Government Garden, only that she was awaiting some friends from the country. We did not remain long, as M^{rs} Maclean came in, and we continued our ride to the Domain, where we met Tom & Louis; the latter joined us, and we found D^r Hadley's groom at the Garden, for the purpose of holding our horses. I thought Harold would have unseated me just as we reached the Gardens, as in stopping him, I touched the curb too sharply, and I was quite in the air for a second.

We walked down to where the Band was playing, and sat there until the Finale; M^r M^{rs} & Miss Maclean, & Miss Jacombe were with us. D^r Hadley kindly procured some cherries, and I certainly did my best to diminish the quantity before me.

After we left the gardens, we took such a delightfully quick ride round the Domain, to try and rid myself of a very bad cold & cough that I caught in the most silly manner; on Christmas night after going into my room, I heard some music in the Street, so I threw

open my window and stood in my night dress = consequently, I caught this nice cold!

So much for Prudence!

30th Sunday – On Friday I did not ride; but all the day I had visitors, and was sorry that one of them had to leave on account of his being ill. In the afternoon Miss [26] Burnett drove with William to Bridgewater for the purpose of bringing in the two Misses Schaw. She would not have the hood put on to the carriage, as she was sure it would not rain, and was even annoyed at the Cloaks and rugs being put in. However, by the time the[y] reached this, they were, one and all, soaked! Miss M. Schaw was thoroughly drenched, and I had to provide them all & every article of dress.

Major Schaw came in whilst we were at dinner, and at ¼ to 8 o'clock, we three ladies left our friends at the table, and went to dress. William came up into my room to dress, as Major Schaw & Tom were in his; he was in such good spirits, the dear fellow! oh! if we might always love others as our brothers, and I mean show it too – yet the monde⁴⁶ would cry me down in my queer Adam-and-Eve ideas!

Major Schaw & I were, like old soldiers, ready at 5 minutes to 9 o'clock = but we were detained by the young ladies until a ¼ to 10! – We then got into a Cab, & drove to the Barracks – where we found a large party assembled.

The Verandah was enclosed, and easy chairs placed in it; it had such a pretty effect looking in from the entrance seeing “happy pairs” seated, talking away seemingly as tho’ they had not met for such an age, and had so [27] much to say! We walked into the dancing room, and I really was pleased with seeing several pretty women, and many nicely dressed, also. Miss Fenton did look so well! She is such a voluptuous girl! and altho’ very far from handsome in the daytime, she lights up so well; her figure is beautiful, and her neck so white & smooth; and the pretty, plain, ladylike white dress made just low enough to show that imagination & reality might easily blend in finding fresh beauties – And positively have I said as much in favor of even a chestnut-haired demoiselle? Well, then it must be truth.

Miss Rosa Kemp was the next Belle; she has the most exquisite complexion! it is like a wax doll – (and so I should say was the fair owner!) She was well dressed and looked very pretty.

⁴⁶ World (French).

I hate parties where there is no decided “Guy” = there ought always to be one at the very least, and yet here I passed such a delightful evening, and never met with any! ‘Tis a novelty, so I presume pleasing.

William started off with M^{rs} Dawson in a Valse, and I was left seated by two ladies whom I had never seen to my knowledge = so presently I espied old Dr Richardson and asked him to take me into the card room; on my way thither I met D^r Hadley, & I was so glad to see him, [28] it appeared as tho’ I had not done so for an age. I soon left my old friend, and found myself seated on a comfortable sofa – beside a still greater luxury – a person I do truly like! He is so gentlemanly & mild in his manner of addressing ladies – it is very winning; and I do’nt know quite, but I think had I a heart worth giving, I should have no difficulty in disposing of it. Why I thus amuse myself in writing such insufferable trash, let any one kind enough to do so, tell me = but the prudish would say “it is exceedingly improper”! – only in word!

M^{rs} Stanley said it was a great flirtation, and was perfectly horrified at it! Poor thing! she is too thin and taper, ever to wax warm in such an affair! Her very aspect is snow – but I will not say any more – for she will never own the heart that I do; never feel the pangs that I do; and perhaps is the better off of the two. By the bye, I wonder if her loving lord & Master has made her try Calomel, as a *dérnier*⁴⁷ resort? He was telling William one day lately that this medicine⁴⁸ taken in small quantities had a wonderful effect on persons who were unable without it, to have their name perpetuated!! William very quietly gave it as his opinion that the fault was as often on the gentleman, as lady’s side – and advised him to take it likewise! He became perfectly angry, and said [29] that this malady was not in his family = when somebody present wished to know why the Bishop of Norwich’s blood should be exempt from such, more than any other mortal’s?

I really am not surprised at seeing her so thin – if she be trying this Cure!

But to return to the agreeable post from which I started! I only tried one small Polka with M^r de Winton, and had to leave off as my shoe burst completely down the front; I shall for the future abjure french ~~glo~~ shoes, altho’ my shoe is far from the first thing that has yielded to the Polka; I was glad to return to my seat in the corner – and wish it were always optional whether I might talk to those I like.

After supper, M^{rs} Dawson & I had a long chat in the Verandah, and I find her very agreeable, altho’ not so much so as her husband.

⁴⁷ Last (French).

⁴⁸ Accurate transcription. Previously medicine has been spelt “medecine.”

Yesterday we called for her to go for a ride, and she was very timid on her poney. “Napoleon”, her steed, is a nice creature, & very quiet yet spirited – he certainly is unlike his great namesake inasmuch as he is wanting in “esprit de corps”⁴⁹ – ~~that is to say altho’~~ – Le petit corporal⁵⁰ might have had his name more misapplied tho’. It was a cold day, & at times rained, so that my cough is not improved; yet I would not have missed it. Singular it is how little we [30] speak to those we take most interest in! And I am quite amused sometimes when I think of M^{rs} Rutledge’s remark to me about M^r Sturt. She & her sister were saying what a delightful person he was, and what amusing accounts he gave of his travels, etc. I observed that he had never told me any of them, & that I must ask him. “Then said M^{rs} Rutledge, what is he saying, for he never speaks to any one else, when you are near”? This made me think – and really I could remember very little he had said.

Miss M. Schaw returned home yesterday, and her sister remains with me until Friday next. Miss Burnett dined with us yesterday, & remained all night; this morning she & Miss Schaw went to M^r Burnett’s to breakfast & then to church; they returned in the afternoon, & then took Annie to church with them.

Tom & William had luncheon with D^r Hadley, who came this morning during Church time, to invite them; he then came again at 1 o’clock, when D^r MacWharrie was here: Tom went out to take “Waverly’s” likeness, and two of the gentlemen went with him, the third remained with Annie & I. Miss Burnett was telling me that M—a is fond of —, and that I should not allow him to pay me so much attention. Now I shall ask [31] him whether he really prefers her to any other here, & whether he would marry her, if she would have him? If so, I shall know my part, and as she says I “ought to go home”, I will.

This evening he dined with us, and sat the whole night by my side, so it does not seem as tho’ he was in love with her; I purposely spoke little, that he might go & sit by her, but he did not leave me, and really every now & then looked quite affectionately at me. He is quite safe with me = and has secured my warmest esteem & regard. H.J.H.Is!

— —

There was a warm discussion respecting Miss Sorell and certainly William was too severe by half! It is wrong to use a single Woman’s name in the way he did her’s, & Tom was right in saying so.

⁴⁹ “Team spirit” or regard for the honour and interests of the body to which one belongs (French).

⁵⁰ Literally “the little corporal”: a derogatory nickname for Napoleon Bonaparte (French).

M— might have envied me tonight, & in the one respect I deserved it, but she would not wish to have felt in my spirits I think. I have cried until my eyes ache – and the Old Year was finished as it began – in tears: Oh! this time twelve months! what a fearful night I passed! What sad, sad abuse I received – and nearly my Death in consequence! all this came to my mind as D^r Hadley sat beside me, with his kind eyes fixed on me, watching every movement; and is [32] it to wondered at that I should compare this with the brutalities of my husband? Let those cold-hearted mortals blame me who can love after marriage, but who could never truly love before – these pure beings who require the assistance of Passion to give them any warmth at all – Yes! they may say it is sinful to note what I have; but let them be placed in the same desperate situations I have been, and then see which will best stand the test?

Alas! Another year is passed – and how? ‘Tis vain to quote what I feel = Oh! how earnestly do I pray to my Creator to forgive me my numberless sins & follies = and he does do so to them who wish it! What would I give to be away from the World, and pass the rest of my life quietly & well? This is not destined to be my lot – no Misery is ever in store for me.

As the Bells rung the Old Year out & the New one in, dearest William gave me a kiss – and we all shook hands and retired to our rooms. William, Tom & I were in the passage, when D^r MacWharrie came to the door, and he was let in, & came up into my room whilst the other two finished their packing. When this was done, William kissed me & said Adieu, and D^r MacWharrie went down with him; Tom stayed [33] behind them, and then came to get his parting salute; having received this & a note for Maria, he too left – & here I am writing this by the fire when I should long ago have been in bed.

And now to finish the Year! There is dear Ada giving her tiny squeak to let me know she is with me yet another year – and the dear pet I trust may be so as long as I am. May Heaven bless all those whom I love, and grant them every blessing = and if I may dare to Hope for Happiness, is it too much for me to do?

Hobart Town

31st December 1848

[34]⁵¹ 1st of January 1849 – Monday.

⁵¹ Unpaginated in original.

We had the pleasure of D^r Hadley's & Miss Burnett's company at dinner yesterday, and we all sat up and saw the old year out, and the New one in! As the time drew near when 1848 came to a close, I felt so miserably dull, and began to think of numerous occurrences that had taken place during this year. How quickly the time has flown, notwithstanding the monotony of nearly all the days; I wonder if we passed our hours exactly as we wished, whether we should be perfectly happy?

After Misses Burnett & Shaw had retired to their room, D^r MacWharrie rapped at the door, and being admitted wished us all the compliments of the Season. He came into my room & talked whilst William & Tom were preparing to start by the Launceston Coach.

At a little after 1 o'clock, they all three said Adieu; and left me. William & Tom are going to Longford to the Races, and the former does not intend returning for 10 days, & the latter will remain at home. I gave Tom a parting kiss, and was glad to go to bed immediately after they left.

5th Friday. Miss Schaw has passed until today with me, and this afternoon left for New Norfolk.

We have been twice for a ride, when Maria has ridden [35] "Waverly" and I Harold. One day D^r Hadley drove us all to the Band – when we got out & listened to it with delight; after which we went for a short drive.

Wednesday Miss Burnett took Maria with her for a little time whilst I fulfilled an engagement in town. She has I may almost say, lived here this week; for on Monday she slept here & remained until Wednesday = and Thursday she passed all the morning with us.

The first night she slept here, after we had gone to our rooms, I went into their's = (William's) and very slyly secured his hunting coat, waistcoat, cravat & cap! After a short time I walked into their room fully equipped, and the scene will never leave my mind. Miss Burnett was in the act of going to bed, & immediately jumped out in her Night Dress; after looking at me a minute, she said "Oh! get away! who are you, oh!" I laughed; and she then was quite in raptures as to my looks, etc: She said I was so like William, or M^r Clarke = that I only looked 17! and finished by asking me to dance the Polka! This last manoeuvre was to see how my legs stood [36] the pantaloons! So I made them instantly into a dansante⁵² attitude, & said "Yes! with you"! Poor woman! off she

⁵² Dancing (French).

went into a corner & squeezed herself into as small a parcel as possible = & very quaintly remarked “Oh! I think you’re a man, and I would not so much mind if I had on my dressing gown”!! – They made me stay for some time with them, and then I went to bed.

On Tuesday & Wednesday we had ices at Webb’s; on the latter day Annie went to stay at M^{rs} Roberts’. M^{rs} Roberts came down on Wednesday, and has had a fall from Norah, but is not hurt.

We have another Piano; it belongs to Captⁿ Pratt, and D^r Hadley got it for me. It was so kind to do so & it has been of so much amusement to us.

On Tuesday, M^r Martin, the Band-Master came to put the Piano in tune, and I must try & give an idea of what passed on the occasion.

No! I’ve changed my mind, and shall say no more about it, excepting Miss Burnett’ admiration for the [“]distinguished foreigner’s” eyes = and her wonder as to whether it would be wrong in her to send his little girl some cherries.

[37]Yesterday M^r & M^{rs} Sharland, and 4 children came into town; I was returning from my visit, and D^r Hadley was driving me to find Miss Burnett & Miss Schaw, when we saw the Archdeacon and M^{rs} Marriott, and 2 more Misses Schaw.

Miss Burnett who came out in the morning with us, had walked home, so Mary Schaw got up in her seat.

When we had had luncheon, D^r Hadley drove me to M^{rs} E. Butler’s where we gathered some flowers, and then drove up to M^{rs} Dawson’s = when I gave M^{rs} Dawson some for the evening, and asked if I could go with them in the evening? They kindly consented, and we returned home.

The Archdeacon and M^{rs} Marriott went to Government House at 6 o’clock to be present at the Juvenile party; we sat down to dinner instead – 4 ladies, & no gentleman, and immediately after the 3 “young people” went to dress.

I undressed myself, and laid down to rest & read. The ladies had never thought of how they were to get down to the soirée, so I sent for Smith’s Cab = then when it came, two of them were not ready, and the man went without them & came up again. [38] D^r & M^{rs} Dawson came for me at ¼ to 10 o’clock, when we drove to Government House.

There was a pretty assemblée of children – and Sarah Butler, Mary Sharland and Georgy Willis were the decided Belles; Young McDonald was the handsomest boy there, and he certainly is a fine lad! His eyes are so beautifully wild in their expression.

Immediately after getting into the Dancing room, D^r Hadley joined us = then came the “finding out” Sir William and Lady Denison, which we succeeded in doing, & wended our way to the “lookers-on” side of the room.

Here I met M^r E. Willis, looking very well, only stouter than when I formerly knew him, he seduced me into dancing the Polka, and then a Gallopade. It was very ludicrous to hear him trying to pay me a compliment or two by saying that he could fancy he was dancing with me 9 years ago, and that I looked quite as young & pretty.

We sat down, & had a long & merry chat about the dear good old times in Launceston. Our sitting so long together & talking so much, made the good people stare a little = and even D^r Hadley did not come near to interrupt the conversation until I had beckoned to him several times; at last he did do so, and then introduced him to M^r E. Willis. N.B. The evening went off very well, and D^r Dawson [39] came about a ¼ to 2 o’clock for me to go home = his lady fair was quite vexed at having to leave so soon, being engaged for a Polka, and said she would give him a piece of her mind; but she appears to bark worse than bite!

10th Wednesday. I have been out riding nearly every day since I wrote in this; Miss Burnett has passed most of her time with me, and slept here three nights. She is such a strange being, will not sleep down stairs alone, and William’s room she is afraid of! Besides which until I had a note from him yesterday, I thought it probable he might return home per Mail, & find the fair Carlotta in his bed = which would have caused both a fright – in different ways!! –

By the bye, the other day he was saying something to me which proved that altho’ the kindest, the best hearted creature, he is still Man, and this in his most — (oh! I cannot say the word I mean,) kind. Par example:⁵³ Miss S—e has told some unkind thing of him to M^r R—ts, and so he said to me “I’m quite undecided as to whether I shall pay her out in abuse, or in another way”! It vexed me to hear him say this, & so I told him = but he said she was a girl that could take a good deal in this way, and he would not be the first who had tried it! Oh! man, [40] why are the feelings intended for our good, so utterly thrown away, or worse – so completely rendered sensual. How well I remember with disgust the evening I came home from M^{rs} Hazard’s, dressed in Baxter’s regimentals; I was walking with several persons, but Captⁿ O’Hara had managed to get me a short distance apart from the rest of the party = he had evidently

⁵³ For example (French).

loved me for years, but never ventured to tell me so to the utmost. This night seemed to have been too much even for him to bear, and he said in such an impassioned manner “Je vous —”!⁵⁴ The word is certainly pretty, winning, but I’ve almost hated it ever since! How I talked him out of his foolish, wicked feelings = and for what?

But to resume; I’ve ridden twice with M^{rs} Dawson, and called once on M^{rs} E. Willis, who was from home. I copied both the french songs M^r Smith lent me, and gave him “All is lost, now”.

Yesterday we went to hear the Band, and there was scarcely any ladies there; 2 Misses Sorell with M^r C. Cumberland, and M^{rs} Drake with her two little girls.

The portrait will be finished today, and really it is a nice drawing, altho’ in my ideas, flattering! If it give any pleasure, it is all I want.

Annie is still with M^{rs} Roberts, and I’m just going up [41] to see about her.

I had a letter from William, and one from Maria yesterday; He will not be back until Friday or so, and appears to be very happy at Longford. Maria says she did not think that he could have passed a week in such a quiet place! and that he has quite won the children’s love. M^r Falconer is coming over to stay with us, whilst here. I shall remember his dressing-gown & black hair!

Yesterday I sat with M^{rs} Smith a short time; she seems an agreeable woman, but evidently can give her tongue a small degree of license! Such persons are dangerous!

Poor M^{rs} Montagu is a widow, & penniless! Her husband was drowned on Monday morning, when crossing in a sailing boat from their house, to this side of the river; she will be very unhappy, and helpless, poor soul! with two or three young children to provide for.

11th Thursday. We went for a delightful ride yesterday, our party consisting of Mistresses Drake, E. Bedford, Miss Scott D^r Hadley, Louis & myself. We first went round the Domain, and then down to the Beach, where we took such a nice canter. I put on my straw hat for the first time, and found it such a comfort! The face is so completely shaded in it: It is certainly flying in the face of the multitude, but altho’ [42] the Hobartonians may be warm, the Sun is warmer, so I’ll humour the latter.

Miss Scott was on Peter, and liked him, but unfortunately the saddle was too small for her, and consequently she suffered from it. This morning she called with M^{rs}

⁵⁴ “Je”= I; “vous”= you. Presumably Captain O’Hara has professed his love: “Je vous aime” = I love you (French).

Dawson, and was complaining of the sores established, when I told them of my plan of starting with plaster on, and then taking it off when I bathe at night.

M^{rs} Dawson came to look at my hat, so that she may get one made like it.

M^{rs} Drake is a queer, good-humoured, vulgar little woman, rides well I think – but snubs her daughters! I was at her house yesterday morning; it is a really pleasant one, and the garden so pretty.

I paid M^{rs} Roberts a visit, and found it awful work for my leg; she was at home, and wished to keep Annie a little longer. This I did not object to, as she has the Influenza, and might give it to Louis – who at present has escaped it.

M^{rs} Burnett is seriously ill, and her daughter not able therefore to come up; I went down to see her last evening, and twice today, and this evening she is better.

D^r Hadley & I went for a ride to the Gardens, where we eat cherries, and then returned with M^r & M^{rs} J. Dunn [43] to see the 99th soldiers dance the New Zealand War dance; we were too late to see it tho', and we missed the lady & gentleman on our way home, so we went thro' the formidable Barracks alone. D^r Hadley laughed at my not liking to go thro' the Square, but the fact is this: Nobody goes there as no married persons live there, and when any sight is going on, the place is crowded with the lowest description of persons; it therefore requires more than one lady to face the crowd. I would not like to have said to me what M^{rs} Bartley had said to her, in Sydney. M^r North had been very attentive to her, and loved her as much as to prevent his being one of a dissipated set that were then in our Regiment; accordingly a fair friend of his became very wrath, and knowing the cause, accosted poor M^{rs} Bartley with "Well, you are prettier than the most of them, but it is such as you spoils one –"!

We brought Louis with us to Lady Pedder's to deliver a note for Miss Burnett; and the dear child had a fall from his poney just after we left. He was not hurt, so we continued our ride home.

13th Saturday – Yesterday I had a note from Tom, and a letter from my beloved friend, Marion. The former tells me little or nothing, excepting his dislike to Miss Buckland; how strange of her to pay him so much [44] attention, when she must see how disagreeable it is to him: besides which, she is so much older than him that her case must be helpless.

Poor Marion tells me something that grieves me very much; what a sad thing to think that all her illness is caused from unskillful treatment during her accouchement! It is such an absurd idea I think having Women to attend at such a time. A man is far

more delicate, and is fitter to be with a person at such times. It does me good to think how happy she is tho' with Mordaunt. She is just the woman to secure a man's love.

William returned by the Mail this morning, and after a sleep, etc., reported himself to his commanding Officer – which gentleman directly thought of paying him the “delicate attention” of reporting him to some one else – In fact, the gentleman had overstayed his leave by two days, and had consequently committed a breach of duty! Col: Victor was so exceedingly kind in his command, that the Officers under him, are quite spoiled for any other “Chief”; it is as great a fault to be too lenient, as to be too severe, in such cases.

William had letters from England, in which we hear [45] that dear Harriet is dangerously ill; she has been too constant in her attendance of her children, who have had some fever.

William wishes to borrow some money of me, until we go home, and this he is most welcome to = but he again wishes to give me the interest he would M^r J. Dunn, and I say that what I am getting at home is quite sufficient: I think we shall arrange matters without fighting.

D^r Hadley passed nearly all the day with us, and I should never tire of his society. In the evening I left the two at their wine, and went down to see M^{rs} Burnett; she is better and able to speak a little. When I returned, which I did very quickly, I found William had sent the carriage for me – dear, kind, considerate fellow, that he is!

We rode to Ridsden today, and notwithstanding my feeling very poorly, I enjoyed my ride on “Harold”. By the way, speaking of horses, Tom has taken an excellent likeness of Waverly = I never saw a better of any thing. William liked all my friends at Longford so much, and says he would gladly have passed another month there.

15th Monday. John drove me to church yesterday morning [46] and D^r Hadley was there with his friendly arm “*toujours prêt*”.⁵⁵ He & M^r Montgomerie came up soon after; the latter to say Adieu to us for the present, as he is going to Spring Bay = and starts this morning.

William drove D^r Hadley up to see M^{rs} Dawson, M^{rs} Burgess, M^{rs} J. Dunn – and to call at M^r Burnett's. They then returned, and William took the children for a short walk. Miss Burnett sat some time with me; & D^r Hadley remained until the little folk

⁵⁵ Always ready (French).

came home: He then went away, but returned in the evening, when he told us he was going today with M^r Montgomerie, to see him to his new Station.

M^{rs} Roberts & Eliza passed the day with me, & the Archdeacon & M^{rs} Marriott luncheoned with us, and returned after making some calls, to dinner. M^r Sharland had luncheon with us.

M^{rs} Marriott & her sposo, went to Boa Vista, and when the carriage returned, William drove M^r & M^{rs} Roberts home.

17th Wednesday. Today is the 5th anniversary of my little Annie's birthday, and so she asked a few small friends to pass the day with her.

Last evening the Mess^{rs} Burnett dined with us, and just as we had finished, in came D^r Hadley = [47] from his long trip in the country! I must not forget to mention how kind he was in sending to ask me if I would ride Harold, whilst he was away; but I felt no inclination to do so.

Yesterday too, we went to the Sale of Chinese goods, and were unfortunate in our speculations, as all that we wished for there, went too high to suit our slender means. Miss Burnett went with me, & M^{rs} Marriott was there.

19th Friday – On Wednesday I did not go out to ride, but did so both yesterday & today; Last evening M^r Burnett, M^r Drake & William dined with D^r Hadley, and remained at Whist until late. I had just gone to bed when William returned, and he would come and talk for some hour or so; he was in such a comical humour, and told me some queer stories.

D^r MacWharrie sat with me all yesterday evening & did not leave until 12 o'clock, as he said we should sit up for William! He is as usual = and we had a very pleasant chat; only he kept continually telling me that I should ruin my eyes working so much. Somehow, I am for ever working, & yet seem to do so little.

[48] 25th Thursday. All has gone on much as usual, so I've not troubled my journal much this week; We have ridden nearly every day, and I've been favored with Harold. On Monday M^r & M^{rs} Drake, Mess^{rs} Tancred & Sharland and D^r Hadley dined with us. On Saturday we had a juvenile Pic-Nic out in the Domain; the small "fry" consisted of the two Misses Drake, 4 Bedfords, and our own 2. They behaved very well, and were no trouble. We returned at 6 o'clock, and M^{rs} Bedford, Misses Scott & Burnett & D^r Hadley passed the evening with us.

I went to church on Sunday, and was the only one of my household who did so.

Called on Tuesday at M^{rs} Dawson's to go for a ride, but she was too tired to go, as she had walked to and from the Baths in the morning; they (Miss Scott & M^{rs} Dawson) were coming home from bathing, when they saw a Bull in the lane, which turned them aside, & made them have a long walk in consequence. I asked M^{rs} Dawson if the animal had pursued them at all; but she said "No, only he might".

I had the extreme happiness last week of getting a letter from dearest Jessie, in which she tells me of her husband's being in ill health. Poor fellow! he has had so much exposure to the weather, in his capacity [49] of Commissioner, that I suppose this is the cause of his delicate health.

As I purpose going by Melbourne in the next Shamrock, I shall try to go and see Janet.

D^r Aplin wrote me a long and affectionate letter; he is not quite decided about going home, but hopes soon to do so; he tells me much news, but none I regret as much to learn as poor M^r Craufurd's serious illness = He is fortunate in being at home, with his kind sister to nurse him, whom he says is so much like me, that he sometimes fancies he is talking with me at Yambuck. How deeply I regret having written so almost unkindly to him! It was at the time, I thought rather hasty; but now that he is ill, and so foolishly fond of me, it may have very bad effects. One thing he promised me most sacredly = never again to attempt what he did before; and so far, all is well.

M^r Mollison is thinking of becoming our neighbour, and buying St Kitts; in such case, he will be doing something very rash some of these days. The Doctor says that he [is] already in love with all the young ladies, and does not know which to choose!

All my pets are well, and March & Wyndham very handsome dogs. Jamie is extremely fat; Oh! I quite [50] anticipate a gallop on the dear little fellow! and what tricks he will play!

28th Sunday. On Monday I commenced working such a pretty mouchoirette⁵⁶ for D^r Hadley, and should have finished it this week, but have been detained talking. Well, there is one thing to be said, I can always[,] always find plenty of work, but seldom such agreeable conversation!

Miss Buckland came to see me the morning she arrived, which was yesterday week = no! Monday – She is looking very pale and sickly, but not I think from love;

⁵⁶ Handkerchief holder (French).

her's is a tiresome complaint, and one from which I've suffered at times, yet unlike her, I would not mention it to a soul. I recollect as a child almost, being so disgusted with a person calling herself a lady, from the same reason. Mais c'est passé.⁵⁷ She, (Miss Buckland) told me a good deal of news from Longford, and likewise brought me letters from M^{rs} Lyttleton & Tom. The former of these two, appears to have taken such a liking to William, and speaks quite fondly of him.

M^r Windsor has proposed to Miss Dumeresq, and she has accepted him; He is rather wise, to persevere in getting a wife, and as Miss Gertrude Walker would not [51] have him, to ask another! I should say that as he was so determined to marry, it must be rather a trial to him waiting nine months = which is the time appointed for her sister's mourning.

The gentleman calls his affiancée⁵⁸ "The little white mouse" = so I said I trusted she might always prove a sourit (souris)⁵⁹ to him. I consider this, one of my best sentiments!

This morning I returned the second Volume, of "Harold the last of the Saxon Kings"; there is a great [deal] of reading in it, and [a] good historical theme; yet I do'nt admire it as much as I do Bulwer's in general. The fact is, he writes Love so well, he should do nothing else, except talk it!

M^r Falconer came yesterday to stay with us, and must have thought me a strangely rude person, for I nearly fell asleep several times during the evening; he & William did not leave the dining room until past 9 o'clock, and they then found me in the dark. I certainly more in a musing, than amusing humour.

On Friday, William dined at Mess, and Miss Burnett dined with me; in the evening we drove into town with Martin a Coachman, and it required [52] all my gravity to prevent laughing at his white hat, which fitted him far too much! This was upset by Louis saying "Who stole the Donkey"? when out came a peal of laughter from all of us. On our way home, I sent Martin with a ~~letter~~ note to D^r Hadley to say how poorly John was, and he kindly came to see him, and remained with us all the evening. I drove home from the Barracks, and Miss Burnett declares her heart was beating fearfully the whole time. We played at Whist in the evening, and had considerable laughing on the subject = we should have distracted regular Whist players!

⁵⁷ But it is passed (French).

⁵⁸ Fiance/ betrothed (French).

⁵⁹ Mouse (French).

Friday and Saturday were both such warm days! On Thursday we went on board the “Rattler”, and took both the children with us. Friday we rode out, and were accompanied by M^r & M^{rs} Drake; William commenced the ride, but vanished upon seeing Mess^{rs} Roberts & Vickery on horseback: we found him at home, talking with Miss Burnett.

Yesterday I found out that the “Joseph Cripps” was to sail for Belfast, so I immediately made up a parcel of Newspapers & books for Baxter.

Thursday 1st of February – On Saturday M^r Falconer came to pass a few days with us, and altho’ I do not [53] see very much of him, I think him rather pleasing; (perhaps on this very account!) He has travelled a good deal, and has a considerable fund of conversation.

D^r Hadley has dined with us twice since M^r Falconer has been here, and was asked on Tuesday to meet Misses Scott & Buckland, but did not come until the evening. M^r Smith came then, too, and amused us with his songs.

M^{rs} Roberts left for Spring Bay on Tuesday, and is to remain away until the end of the month.

I do feel so poorly today, and cannot in the least account for it, but I hope it will soon pass. I am just beginning to feel leaving Hobart Town, and wish I had all the disagreeables over of packing, and saying Adieu.

I had on Wednesday such a nice letter from my friend M^r Sturt; he is indeed a “pearl of great price”! I answered it immediately, as I find it was written on the 19th of September, and has since been in M^r Flower’s hands.

On the 30th of January I drew £300 – on Hopkinson & Co as William wants some of it, not wishing to trouble M^r Jadvivier.

Miss Buckland has given me a Canary Bird, and I shall leave it with D^r Hadley, until my return from Port Phillip. Dearest Marion’s letter I answered yesterday. [54]We rode yesterday, and poor little Louis, who has been in disgrace for the last few days, accompanied us. We met so many people, for the day was so fine! I never remember a more beautiful one here = there was such a delightful sun, with just enough breeze to make it thoroughly fine.

Amongst other persons, we met M^{rs} Bedford & M^r Lloyd; the latter sails for India on Saturday, & leaves this tomorrow or today, rather. In the morning, Harefield drove me down to execute some shopping, and I met the above named two; I was laughing at M^{rs} Bedford, and said she ought to make him wear a brass collar with her

name on it = but she said she had serious ideas of leading him about with a ribbon! I wonder if he cares a morsel for her?

Tomorrow night the 96th give a Ball, and M^r Falconer goes over in the morning to join the gay assembly.

D^r M^{ac}Wharrie has been several times to see me, and is to pass this evening with me; as I shall be alone. Tomorrow is D^r Hadley's birthday, and I shall give him the mouchoir⁶⁰ holder.

William has given me "Salathiel", of which I am so fond; how I will value it!

M^r & M^{rs} Drake were here on Tuesday evening, and she took the children to the Band on that day. Now then to copy music, as my time is limited rather.

[55] 11th Sunday – Longford Parsonage. I left Hobart Town on Friday evening in the Mail, accompanied by D^r Hadley; I cannot say how pleased & gratified I felt by his doing so, it showed so much kindness & consideration. He returned by the yesterday morning's Coach which we met near Rhodes, and I shall not see his kind face again for some time.

Poor Rowley has met with an accident, and scalded his leg very badly, but is recovering fast under D^r Kilgour's care. The carriage met me at Perth, and how glad I was to get out of the odious Coach which had cramped my legs so terribly. M^r Davies is gone to Circular Head with the Bishop, and is expected every hour. Tom had driven M^{rs} Nixon to M^{rs} Dumeresque's, and did not return until luncheon; he is looking very well.

Maria is improved wonderfully in appearance, and is evidently thriving; she was amused at my telling her that William said "tic douloureux was the commencement, generally, of some other complaint".

The children look so pale & delicate; it is the Season of the Year I suppose, affects them.

The Mail was full all the way over; we started from Hobart Town with a Maitre d'Hotel from Green Ponds, and a small-grown female, who thinking she was not full size, took a huge parcel by her feet, and so prevented my [56] being able to stretch out mine! However, most things have an ending, and so our compagnon⁶¹ got out at Campbell Town. We had the society of Father Bond from Oatlands to Ross, where he went outside, and allowed M^r Davis to take his seat: M^r H. Anstey too, came

⁶⁰ Handkerchief (French).

⁶¹ Companion (French).

in for a short time. There were only two horses that preferred remaining still to going on; the former of the two was very determined, and altho' a fire was lighted under him, he would not move, and had to be taken out.

Last Monday morning we went to New Norfolk to take Annie to M^{rs} Marriott's, there to remain until my return from Port Fairy. Miss Burnett & D^r Hadley accompanied us, and Major Wilson joined the party at dinner. In the evening, all the Misses Schaw came in, and the Archdeacon and M^{rs} Marriott were there likewise; these in themselves form no small party = and M^{rs} Sharland's drawing room was quite full. She, poor little woman, expects an addition to her family next month, and looks forward to it with some "fear & trembling". Not much wonder when she thinks of her last confinement.

What a dispensation of Providence it is when we consider it, that let a Woman suffer ever so much at these times, directly the hour is past, she cannot, like other pains, recall the exact suffering; and so this is most likely the reason [57] why she continues to try it!!

On Wednesday last, the 7th inst: and William's birthday, we dined at D^r & M^{rs} Dawson's; the rest of the party consisted of M^{rs} Burgess, Miss Scott, D^r Hadley, Captⁿ Gregg, M^r Johnson, M^r Smith, William & myself. It was a pleasant evening, only poor William was so ill, as to be obliged to leave the table, and I therefore thought it better to go to M^{rs} Buckland when the carriage came, and apologise for being unable to avail ourselves of her kind invite for that evening. I returned again to M^{rs} Dawson's, and remained there until ½ past 10 o'clock.

It is my intention to try and pay M^{rs} Butler a visit; she is a sister of M^{rs} Dawson's, and the latter is very anxious that she should return with me, and make a stay in Hobart Town.

On Thursday I called on M^{rs} Pratt, M^{rs} Macdonald, M^{rs} Brock and M^{rs} Booth; I rode Harold for the last time, and the pet carried me so nicely! Dear, dear Ada! I've left her with William, and how much I shall count the time until I see her again: she had her new collar on the day I left, and it is a very good one.

The Parsonage looks pretty, but rather scorched with the sun; there is such a Purity, if I may so express it, in the air of this place – I mean such a halo surrounds [58] the house, that even I feel inclined to be good, and do not think I could do anything to lose the love of these dear people.

Such a melancholy accident has taken place at M^r Walker's, of Rhodes: His third daughter, I think, named Selina, and nearly 16 years old, was drowned the day

before yesterday, and buried yesterday. The poor girl was bathing, and threw herself into a deep water hole in joke; she rose once after going down, and then sunk to rise no more. She is described as very amiable, and beloved by her family = and very good-looking.

12th Monday. Tom drove me over to Symmon's Plains, and we had luncheon with M^{rs} Youl; the Master of the house being in Launceston, we did not see him.

The "establishment" does not look as neat as it used to do when Jane had the management of it; the children pull everything about, jump on the sofa & chairs, and are, in fact spoilt. We called on our way at Woolmers, and saw M^{rs} Archer, who is not looking very well.

14th Wednesday. Valentine's day. Maria & M^{rs} Lyttleton brought me into town this morning, as the Steamer leaves tomorrow at 6 o'clock; Tom came in likewise, accompanied by a M^r Bradbury = the funniest looking little mortal I almost ever saw. M^r Davies returned from Circular Head [59] on Monday evening, having had to walk thro' the bush from Port Sorell to George Town. He brought up with him a son of M^r J. Lee Archer's, just roped, and perfectly wild, to put him to M^r Boyd's school.

Yesterday all went to Evandale to see the Bishop and M^{rs} Nixon; and Tom drove me to sit with Susan: Her little girl is grown finely, and is nice looking, as children go!

I came to the Cornwall on my arrival, and have taken possession of M^r Tarletan's rooms.

M^r Dry has been in twice to see me, and is gone now with Maria to Elfin, to see the Landales; I feel for the poor Father, for he frets so sadly about the son he has lost.

I went to M^r Griffiths' store, and found that my cask was in this house all the time. By the bye I made such a nice purchase, of a tortoise-shell comb, having left my German one in Hobart Town.

M^r Falconer paid me a visit; and Mary Ann Burnett also came to see me.

I found three letters here awaiting me: Two from Baxter, and one from Hobart Town = the latter afforded me much pleasure. Baxter feels it dull without me, and says he does not like being alone; he tells me everybody is badly off, especially himself. The Aplins have sold their station to M^r W. Mollison; M^r Macgregor his to M^r Bostock [60] so the brother & sister will be next-door neighbours.

The Steamer has only 40 cabin passengers, so I shall, I think, take my rest on the Deck.

M^r Norman McLeod has bought M^r G. Winter's station, and is gone to live there, so the poor old lady will be left alone once more – after coming all the distance she has to be near her sons.

M^r Youl came in this afternoon and brought M^{rs} Griffiths & her family, and his “Grandpapa” D^r Gammock; he brought the latter in to introduce him to me, as we shall be fellow passengers to Melbourne. Mess^{rs} Youl, Dry and Tom had tea with me, and then went to the Circus, I believe. I spoke to the one, and told him what I had thought at his having said what he did to me; what I had done in consequence, and that I knew he could not feel what he had done, or he would never have said anything half so galling! Oh! his answer! it will be ever – for ever engraven on my heart = We are but bad judges of our own feelings; when we fancy we can in a few months banish a love of years! —

[61]18th Sunday. Melbourne. We left Launceston, that to me, dear spot, on Thursday morning at 6 o'clock; the previous night was anything but quiet: I went to bed about 10, after having made up my parcel for D^r Hadley, and my letter to William, and thought to have a good sleep – but not so. First of all, at ½ past 11, came Sir A. and Lady Stephen home from Major Wentworth's – then followed a great ringing of bells; Next, a little dog of M^r Burnett's, which took an amazing liking to me, & which in consequence I allowed to remain in the sitting room, commenced a vigorous barking = then came the horn for the Coach; and scarcely ½ an hour after, up got the Judge. Knowing that I should have no more sleep, I got up too; and soon after, the waiter brought me hot water.

I dressed, and was having a cup of coffee, when M^r Youl came down to take me to the Steamer. I was very tired when I got there, and found all the party assembled nearly. M^r & M^{rs} J. Stevens came last; the latter in a knitted Polka, and looking so well. She is more stylish in her appearance than before she went to England, but not prettier.

The “Shamrock” got under weigh exactly at six, and off we went; Tom, standing looking dismal between Miss Lewis & M^{rs} Cox; the young lady having £10,000, makes him think her a very nice pretty girl! But I asked him if he had seen her brother David?

Long before we reached George Town, I had to go and lie down, and by the time the Tide-Waiter came on board, I had under [62] the delightful influence of Porter, fallen asleep. Presently, a violent knocking awoke me, and to my reply of “come in”, the Stewardess & a Constable appeared at the cabin door.

“Your name, if you please,” said the man; “Annie Maria Baxter replied I. “What was the name of the Vessel you came to the Colony in”? “Augusta-Jessie”. “A prison ship”? “Yes”. “Did you come free to the Colony?” said the wretch, in the most confidential tone. “At the King’s expense, partly” said I, unable, tho’ ill, to let a morsel of fun pass me. “What”! he said coming a little nearer = “Oh!” said I feeling really sick, “I am quite free now, and you can go too”. The Stewardess said very civilly, “It is custom, to under go this examination” – “Very well” I replied, “this will do”. Away they went – but as I come back I shall certainly speak to Captain Friend about it.

FIFTH VISIT TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND: 15 JUNE 1849 – 15 JANUARY 1851

Notebook 11 (MS. Q181 Item 11) 186-232: 15 June 1849 – 13 August 1849

[186] 15th Friday. On Wednesday morning as I was dressing, M^r Connolly came to my door, and said that I must get ready immediately, as the City of Sydney would not anchor, and therefore we must go off at once.

I was ready in a very few minutes, and Baxter walked down with me to the wharf. He came with me on board, & appeared sadly distressed at [187] my going, and said he should go over to Hobart Town in the next City of Sydney. He really looked wretched! and I was forced from humanity alone, to say that I would make no promises about coming back or not; so that if I have used a little deception, 'tis in a good cause; for had I positively said I would not return, he would have allowed everything to go to ruin; & himself, taken to drink.

We all retired to our Berths; I had one to myself, & the other three female passengers had the ladies Cabin. Today we all met for the first time on Deck; Joey was up, and chatted away in a delighted strain, so glad to see me again. M^r & M^{rs} Macgregor are on board, and M^r Griffiths = I could read today; and received two most delicious letters, which have made up for any unhappiness that I may have suffered of late. The writer is so drole tho'; he will insist upon it, that I confer favors on so many, and really believes that I care nothing for him!

We are at anchor in the Tamar, or I should not be writing so easily; we've had a quick passage; but very unfortunately the wind does not answer, and we must remain until the Steamer or the tide have mercy on us.

The good folks are walking up & down over my berth, in most delightful style. [188] 17th Sunday. How often when we expect little, we receive much! So it was with us yesterday; for we had given up all idea of getting to Launceston, and were on the eve of dropping anchor, when we were rejoiced by hearing the Steamer from afar; and soon after, she was towing us along in good style, & we again, kindly giving a line to the "Swan". In this manner we had the delight of getting up to town by ½ past 9.

I waited for nobody; and M^r Griffiths got into a boat, & I with him; the other passenger, whose name I shall never remember, came likewise, & actually carried my Carpet Bag for me!! How joyously I feel when in this dear old place! Oh! why am I always recalling the pleasures of the Past, when the Present presents such continual woe and bitterness to me! Memory —

I did not like to disturb M^r Dry last night, as I heard that he had a few friends with him; and much as I always wish to chat with him, I only this time wrote him a note, asking him to come and see me this morning – which he did. He looks very ill, and is suffering from some complaint of his heart. M^r C. Henty called before Church; both, were much shocked to hear of M^r Chiene's death.

[189] I dined with M^r & M^{rs} Macgregor; luncheoned at M^{rs} Welman's; and went to Church in the evening with them, and M^r Dry sat with me in the evening. He is going to California, with several others; how sincerely I hope he may prosper there; both in his health & prospects. How I love the good creature!

Well, I must now note a dream: The first night I was at Sea, I dreamt Joey was drowned, in the most beautifully clear water.

19th Tuesday. I am writing in my bed room at the Parsonage; M^r Jocelyn Thomas kindly drove me out this afternoon. M^r Davies went in to town yesterday, and so I remained too, as my luggage did not come on shore. I went to see M^{rs} Cox, and left Joey with Maria Cox, until Friday; when he is to go by the coach with me. I passed the evening at M^r C. Henty's = and was very much delighted with both of their great kindness of heart.

M^{rs} Jennings met me, and almost insisted on my going out with M^{rs} Pitcairn & herself to remain the night at her house; but I got off, well.

I've had much unhappiness these two days: of course, I can anticipate nothing else = and this time, 'twas mostly of my own creating. This is a [189]* Sorry World for some of us!

I was shown a note (or part of one, I should say) wherein the person says – “Poor M^{rs} Baxter is not free from the scandal of this place; D^r Hadley it is said, went in the Mail with her across the country; – and from what then passed” ~ ~

These words were dashed, as I've put them; and need I say that the epistle was from a jealous woman! M^{rs} Barrow – shall pay for this.

I said “What a wretch, to try & make mischief in this way = she must be guilty of the same, or would never conceive it”! “She is not a wretch; & not so guilty as some imagine”! was the rejoinder.

21st Thursday – On Tuesday afternoon M^r Jocelyn Thomas drove me out to the Parsonage; before I left, M^r Dry sat some time with me, and seemed quite to have forgiven all my rudeness & unkind truths I had told him. H.D.L.M.A.E. –

I told him I thought he was sulky, by not coming to chat with me last evening; but he said he did not know I had a sitting room up stairs.

D^r & M^{rs} Kilgour were here when I came; Maria had come down stairs for the first time since her confinement, which took place a month ago.

[190] She has a really pretty little girl; it has such large blue eyes. M^{rs} Lyttleton is very busy with the child, as she says “Altho’ I did not wish for it; now it is come, some one must take care of it, poor child”! She is the same unselfish soul as ever. She likes D^r Hadley very much; he is so very attentive & kind, she tells me; & he sent her some warm mittens! Poor fellow! he will be so sorry to receive my note by M^r Macgregor last evening = but it is only right to tell him what I did.

I had a dear note from William yesterday, & which I answered last night; He is going on Friday to New Norfolk with Miss Burnett & the children, & thought it would be better to put off my going over until Monday.

Today M^{rs} Lyttleton & I went over to Clarendon: we found all at home: it is a beautiful house, & the Grounds very pretty. Poor M^{rs} Chiene! when I spoke to M^r Cox of her coming away from where she was, he said very coldly “Has she no neighbours”? “She must live in some small town, where she can educate her children”! When I looked at the fine house, & heard him say “That is my Overseer’s house; this is my Woolshed”: and then brought his unfortunate [191] child to my mind’s eye – the beautiful story of the Prodigal son recurred to me, and I inwardly said “I will arise and go to my Father, and say”: etc. Oh! how I grieve for her! but then again this is to be said in his favor: that it would never do to risk her polluting his second family!

We called on our way to Clarendon at Symmon’s Plains, and luncheoned there; M^{rs} Youl is in an interesting situation, and it is very visible. M^r Youl was from home.

We paid a visit to M^{rs} Mary Archer, and found M^{rs} Cathcart there; and then proceeded to Woolmers; where I’ve passed too many happy days.

M^{rs} Archer, Martha, Ellen and M^r R. Kermode were there, but dear M^r Archer could not leave his room.

M^{rs} Home & Alfred were at the Parsonage when we returned; the former is altered considerably.

Wednesday. How singular my putting off so long writing in this book! My hours have been completely employed. On Friday afternoon, I was driven over to Perth, and there met the Coach with “Joey” on the top. M^r C. Henty, I regretted was not there; and so I had to do the amiable to a M^r Kay.

We got thro’ the journey very well, and arrived [192] in Hobart Town in very good time on Saturday morning.

My delight was great in seeing D^r Hadley standing at the Coach Office; it was so kind, so thoughtful! He looks very ill indeed.

The carriage was waiting for me; and I was soon home; William, the lazy fellow! was snoozing in his bed with the curtains so carefully tucked in; and dear Ada! was fast asleep, until she heard my voice, when her recognition was most affectionate. The Beauty! she looks very smooth in the skin, but rather thin.

I sent in for Louis, and the dear boy was so glad to see me; he is looking very pale & delicate.

Annie came home from Miss Burnett's; she is much improved in her appearance, and is stouter than she was.

D^r Hadley, the Misses Burnett, M^r Clarke, Mess^{rs} Brown & Tom, were here the first day; and I was glad that William dined out, for I was tired.

On Sunday I did not go to church until the afternoon, when Tom drove me with the children, to the Chapel in Goulburn Street, there to hear M^r Davies. We got there very late, owing to our not knowing the exact road; & I really expected that the Dean would tell me of it.

[193] On Sunday D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} Clarke, Mercer & Tom dined with us; the two latter have been staying here some time. There is a new Engineer Officer come out, but as yet they seem to know little of him.

Yesterday William gave me a handsome Mare, which I rode for the first time: she has never been even tried with a sheet; and yet she carried me so beautifully. He gave too – a pretty bouquet holder. I have called my Mare Zoë.

Today M^r Davies dined with the children at 10 o'clock; I sent by him a beautiful cloak for baby = and a Greek Testament to Rowley. He is gone by the Coach. M^{rs} E. Bedford sat with me all the morning; D^r Hadley called, and D^r & M^{rs} Dawson & Miss Burgess. Yesterday M^{rs} & Miss Burgess called, and I refused myself to them, as William feels vexed, and justly so, with them = and today I could not get out of it. M^r Macgregor called. M^r Mercer left yesterday. Mess^{rs} Montgomerie, Johnson & Captⁿ Pratt called. The Misses Burnett too, sat some time.

D^r MacWharrie came to see me on Sunday = & I met him yesterday when I was riding. I saw M^r Frazer and he was glad to see me again.

Miss Buckland came in on Sunday, and yesterday [194] dined with me; we were sitting quietly discussing our "politics", when D^{rs} Dawson & Hadley; M^r Davies & William

came in from the Mess; Miss Buckland sang sweetly for us; and she & I played alternately for the Polka to be danced.

Today M^r Parker of the 11th dined with us; Tom goes to Launceston (Longford) tomorrow morning. D^r Hadley came in during the evening, and all four gentlemen have just gone to have a game at Billiards. William drove me this afternoon to call on M^{rs} Butler, M^{rs} Maclean, and the Misses Burnett.

Wednesday. M^{rs} Buckland called early, and sat some time: she had just left, when D^r Hadley & M^r C. Henty came in, and sat a long time. They left, and M^{rs} Drake called. She went; and we then went out for a ride = I tried Peter, for the first time – & do'nt like him at all; he is so rough.

I was quite astonished at hearing M^{rs} Butler speaking of M^r Sturt in so familiar a manner; she appears to know him very well. Her personal appearance is far better than I imagined, as he said to me continually when speaking of her, “Oh! comme elle est laide”!¹

After we returned from riding yesterday, William & D^r Hadley went to see Miss Burnett, & ask her to come up this evening; [195]² there occurred much fun, on this – for the young ladies were engaged to a Dance at M^{rs} Kay's; and Miss Burnett sat down & wrote a note, putting off the invite. D^r Hadley sent the note, and the answer returned was, that, Captain Stanley would send a Cab for them at a ¼ to 9! –

D^r Hadley came in, and told us this, and we sent Martin down to wait for the Vehicle, and then tell the Driver to go – as the ladies had altered their minds. We laughed immoderately at this; & William went down to see the trick played.

They were, however, innocent of the fraud, and came off best – as they got into the Cab, & came here; thereby saving their legs.

They remained until after 11 o'clock, when William saw them home. D^r Hadley left in 5 minutes after.

Thursday. Poor William is not at all well this morning; he has a return of the nasty pain in his stomach. I've got home my album this morning accompanied by a drole note – which the writer tells me I may laugh at! I fear I should even sans p^{er}mission.³

¹ Oh! How ugly she is (French).

² Not paginated by AB

³ Without permission (French).

I don't think I've mentioned Tom's departure on Wednesday morning, for Longford; he gave a fraternal kiss at parting. [196] I sent Maria a beautiful little cloak for Baby; and asked them to call her Evelyn.

This afternoon we went to hear the Band in the Barracks, and I took Marianne Burnett & the two other children. Col: Despard stood talking to me for some time; but to my amazement when M^{rs} Despard came, she did not recognize me; – whether purposely or not, I cannot say. The Band played several very pretty pieces of music, and I was sorry to be obliged to leave before the end, as I had to go into the Town. The Misses Burnett, on my return, sat with me until dark. D^r & M^{rs} Brock called today, M^{rs} Richardson, and D^r & M^{rs} Agnew.

Saturday – Miss Buckland came in yesterday morning, and we altered the place for the piano to stand. D^r & M^{rs} Bedford, M^r & M^{rs} Drake, Miss B— and M^r Mercer dined with us = the latter returned in the afternoon from Oatlands. We called on M^r & M^{rs} Frazer, M^r & M^{rs} J. Burnett, & Government House. M^{rs} Burnett is petite, with pretty eyes – and a delightful figure to the waist, but we agree in thinking she can have no hips!

M^r Dry came to town on Friday, and came in the [197] evening with D^r Hadley; he looks so very ill, it quite grieves me to see his dear face, looking so pale. I fear I have given this last sad blow to him; & it was excessively cruel & ill-judged in me. He never once spoke to me during the evening.

This morning I found myself at the breakfast table with M^r Mercer at 11 o'clock; really it is too bad, to live in this lazy manner. I get vexed with myself, wasting so much precious time, & yet I cannot help it – every one seems to be idle here!

4th [July] Wednesday. Yesterday the door bell appeared to have S^t Vitus' dance; it was going in the most perpetual manner! First, came the Misses Burnett: then Mess^{rs} Dry & Clark; next D^r Hadley – then William & Captain Pratt – then again the Misses Burnett – Lady Denison, M^{rs} Stanley – M^r & M^{rs} J. Burnett. After all had gone on their several missions, I put on my shawl, notwithstanding my terrible cold, and went to M^{rs} E. Butler's, and sat some time with her; she appears in excellent spirits, altho' poor thing, she suffers sadly from chronic liver complaint = Little Sarah looks very delicate.

On Monday I refused to dine at M^{rs} E. Bedford's, but went in at 3 o'clock; I found Mess^{rs} E. and W. Bedford, [198] Clark, D^r Hadley & William. M^{rs} Bedford & I had a long chat before any of the gentlemen left the dining room = and when they came in, all played at whist, with the exception of M^r Clarke & we two ladies.

We all returned in M^r Clarke's Cab; at ½ past 11.

William dined at the Mess yesterday, so I had the evening to myself & work. "Dombey & Son" were honored by my notice during a portion of the evening. I do'nt really know when I've felt so happy at being alone, as last night! I was so fagged with callers & cold, that I could have cried with it, if I had not had other things to do.

This morning William gave me 4 letters that have been here some time; one was from Miss Brown, another from my dearest Marion, a third from M^r Baxter, and a fourth from M^{rs} Rutledge. The third is rather too good, too racy, to be put on a footing with other correspondents' – it contains amongst other things of the same stamp, these words: "I think you are carrying your independance to[o] far rather, if illness detains you, you might write and say so; and I think I should be much to blame were I to leave you any longer with your Brother, of whom the whole world is talking; hoping you are quite recovered, I remain etc – P.S. [199] "Everything is going to the devel; bring the children with you." – he might have added to the —

Marion writes in her own affectionate manner; I often wonder if she would alter, were I to?

I've written to M^r Flower & enclosed his book; I am now sitting writing this opposite to Richard Dry; he is at present staying with us. Poor fellow! he appears worried beyond measure with his affairs: would to Heaven, I could share his miseries, or render them less!

On Friday we have an invite to M^{rs} Brock's to a Dance; Tomorrow morning, William goes to Richmond to hunt, and 5 of the hunt dine with us on their return.

I wrote to M^{rs} Chiene yesterday, & William put it into the post, and forgot to pay the inland postage: this morning the postman came for the money, and when I expressed my astonishment at his knowing who wrote it, he said very quaintly "Oh! they know your writing so well Ma'am, at the Post Office"! My hand will yet bring me into some serious scrape.

And now to commence a letter to Marion. Oh! I sent over a book to Maria Cox, for her care of Joey.

Saturday Night. All the house is at rest, excepting my own troubled self; – and when, shall I ever be? However, I'll pass on to the affairs of every day life.

[200] On Wednesday then, M^r Johnson & William sent their horses on to Richmond, altho' the day was rainy and dismal – Oh! what could it signify to them! they were not afraid of a little wet! – they were no feather-bed soldiers like their mutual

friend, D^r Hadley! Not they! 7 o'clock next morning should see them en route – and if they had a good run (which they might make some of,) what a laugh would be their's! “John”, said William the previous night, “be sure now you do'nt oversleep yourself tomorrow morning; remember, Coffee, at ½ past 6 o'clock”.

I had a wretched cold & cough; and being very uneasy during the night with them, and having no watch, I fancied it was later than it proved, & walked into William's room at a ¼ to 3.

Six o'clock came, so did the faithful John, coffee in cup! “What sort of a morning, John”? “Rather wet, Sir; shall Peter be saddled”? “Oh! yes! let him be saddled; wet, I think you said = ah! it will blow off, eh, John? Tell Martin to have the horse ready for me, and I'll be down”! On went the leathers; tops; blue worsted jacket: nothing now in the Universe wanting but two things – The red coat, and the inclination to proceed thro' a pitiless rain to the hunt [201]! But hélas!⁴ it was not be! He had like a French philosopher, “changé ses sentimens”!⁵ He returned to bed, and whilst his best wishes followed his quondam hunting associates – his visions of the Chase faded from his mind, and Sleep! Balmy Sleep! rendered him totally unconscious of the visit of a self-constituted Victim to the hunt!

M^r Roberts on Tea-pot came riding into the Yard, and asked in an alarmed manner whether the Captain had been gone long? “He's not going at all Sir”; said John. “Not going? Why it's a fine morning now – beautiful for the hunt”! At the same time he lifted up his face to the Skies – a thing I verily believe in his confiding disposition he had never once thought of doing before, and caught a drop in his eye, which caused him to wink! Teapot, appeared to understand that there was a doubt in the case, and which like most other articles of the same domestic tendency had not got up the steam, from having cold water thrown on him; seemed to me likewise to take the hint – and wink too! I really felt for this Hunter; having to ride so far alone on such a cold morning! and positively I would have gone some miles with him, had I been able; it was so sporting!!

[202] At ½ past 8, William once more awoke, and finding that at that precise minute it did not pour, ordered Peter once more to be saddled = and sat down to his breakfast. After this was over, however, the old British Anthem was continued – Vive la

⁴ Alas (French).

⁵ Changed his mind (French).

Reine”⁶ – (rain) “Long to reign (rain) over us”, (specially Victoria!) said the morning; and then carried the words into effect.

By and bye, came D^r Hadley; he had the laugh at the others, by firmly stating that, had he sent his horse, nothing should have prevented him from going too! In the afternoon M^r Sharland came into town, & drove Miss Schaw to M^{rs} Brock’s; there had been no hunt; the day was too bad!

Mess^{rs} Roberts & Sharland and D^r Hadley dined with us; and the former had never gone further than M^r Roope’s, where he had breakfast, and returned. And so finished our day’s sport! Whist was played in the evening, whilst I answered dearest Marion’s letter. Friday evening. Miss Buckland & M^r Dry accompanied us in a Cab to M^{rs} Brock’s, where I really passed a pleasant evening. I had plenty of partners; and Mess^{rs} Lockman & Johnson are both such nice ones, really as good as our Port Fairy friends.

[202] M^r Dry went with us, as I before said; and I had no idea that he had ever intended otherwise. M^{rs} Barrow not being there, his attention was devoted principally to M^{rs} H. Kay – who is pretty, but not ladylike; every now & then she is quite brusque in her manner – very Colonial! She was dressed very nicely – and during the after part of the evening, M^r Dry and she stood in a corner apart from the rest, and were evidently taken up with themselves. I heard some gentleman in the doorway say “Oh! they would stay talking till tomorrow; she is in heart a flirt, & but is kept in check by her husband”! I pretended not to hear, but took care to do something that broke up the conversation; neither of them know what took the Spouse so quickly! – I can do spiteful things sometimes; and if M^r Dry were not going away so soon, I would show him so too!

Altogether the evening was very pleasant, and it was I think 2, before we left. We returned in the Cab, as we went; William had a lantern lighted, and gave each of us a turn of the glare, to our horror.

Monday. None of us went to church yesterday, it poured so continually during the day; notwithstanding which M^r Dry & William drove in a closed Cab to [204] Cooly’s Inn, and returned about 4 o’clock; I had hoped to be alone to read, but D^r MacWharrie came in, and told me that poor D^r Hadley was ill in bed: I certainly felt guilty, but still I did not think that any words of mine could have quite so much effect. Feeling this, I wrote to him, & asked him for my books, sealed up. He answered my note, in his usually amiable manner.

⁶ Long live the Queen (French).

When D^r MacWharrie left, Mary Anne Burnett came; and William made her remain to dinner, and took her home at night. Mess^{rs} Clark and Dry dined with us too; I had no idea that I was a favorite with the former of these two, until told so today; he never would be one of mine exactly – he is so excessively lazy!

M^r Lockman appears a very nice person indeed. This morning at about ½ past 11 o'clock, just as I had finished with the children's lessons, Miss Buckland broke⁷ some music to practice duets. We were going to commence, when in came Miss Schaw, and D^r Brock; they had not been here long, when D^r Hadley & M^r Macgregor came = all left with exception of D^r Hadley, who remained & drove me to see M^{rs} Dawson, M^{rs} Burgess, M^{rs} E. Bedford. [205] We took Annie with us; and Louis went with Harefield for a canter.

Martin met me at M^{rs} Bedford's, and D^r Hadley got out at the Barracks: I then called on M^{rs} Agnew, at Webb's, Hawley's & Lewis' – And at Miss Burnett's.

Soon after I got home, the Misses Burnett & Schaw sat some time with me; and did not leave until it was quite dusk. D^r MacWharrie dined here, and William brought up M^r C. Schaw.

10th Tuesday Morning = It is so lovely a morning, that I got up very early, and am now writing in my dressing gown. William sat with me, until past 1 o'clock last night, and told me some strange things – but which I had partly heard before. For instance, all about the person by whom M^r Lloyd had a child; and who now lives in a house of his (W.C') renting: he tells me she is so strikingly like Harriet.

13th Friday – All are in bed long ago; and I am sitting by my fire, feeling very unhappy, and out of humour with all Mankind! I must go on from where I left off tho'. Tuesday Evening, the Misses Burnett and Schaw came in; and D^r Hadley & M^r Macgregor; so we had a Polka & music: M^r Mercer, who dined with us, left before the dancing commenced.

[206] On Wednesday I returned "Calls"; and went for a ride in company with M^{rs} E. Bedford. Mess^{rs} Drake & Burnett – and D^r Hadley dined with us; and M^r Montgomerie came in the evening.

Thursday morning I received a note from M^{rs} Curl, in which she wished to know if Peter were a very quiet horse, as she would otherwise be "affraid" to mount him! I asked her to go to the Band instead, which she did. M^{rs} E. Bedford passed the morning with me. I

⁷ This appears to be an accurate transcription.

went to see Miss Burnett, and Marianne came to the Band with me, as did M^{rs} Drake. We all walked to the Flag Staff; and I was delighted with the Band. It played for the first time, the “Post Horn Polka”, & it made quite an impression on all present; – some, saying, that they could scarcely keep from dancing to it.

Today – oh! last evening D^{rs} MacWharrie and Hadley passed here; and after I went to bed, all three went to D^r MacWharrie’s house, and had Eeg Flipp [sic].

15th Sunday. This morning I went to church; it rained a little as we returned home. In the afternoon, I had a visit from Miss Burnett, [207] and as mist came down that prevented my taking the children to church, we walked up to see M^{rs} E. Butler, and sat there for fully an hour. She was telling us of a poor woman, who, during her accouchement met with a sad catastrophe – The poor creature has suffered agonies ever since – (now five days) and M^r Bedford has sat up with her night after night. I told M^{rs} Bedford when all had gone out of the room, that I would gladly sit up with her tonight – and to let me know where she lived.

Just before dinner, Elizabeth, M^{rs} Butler’s housekeeper came down to say she was dead. They seem to think so much of my offering to watch the poor soul; they little know how I’ve watched by the very outcasts of society ! An unfortunate prisoner has always had more care from me than those who could afford to hire Nurses!

I may often have considered too bending – too charitable in my actions, by the worldly – but how grateful have the wretched individuals been, whom I tended. Ah! which of us knows at what minute we may be placed in the same position, and require the same care!

Yesterday morning, there being no lessons, I went [208] round to M^{rs} Green’s about my dress; on my way thither, I called in at M^{rs} Curl’s, as she wrote to say she was unwell. In the afternoon D^r & M^{rs} Dawson, M^{rs} Butler and Annette called; when they left, we went for a ride. On our return, a Dray hurt dear Ada very much; but not as much as it might have done, for really I thought she would have been killed. – The poor pet is only very stiff on her leg, and her tail hurt.

Oh! how her cry goes to my heart! That heart that very little else touches now.

Miss Buckland called today, & came on to M^{rs} E. Butler’s after me.

Last night they had a whist party; composed of Mess^{rs} Burnett, Montgomerie, D^r Hadley & William. I went to bed at ½ past 11 = and left them with oysters & whist!

18th Wednesday – On Monday I rode Zoë with D^r Hadley & Louis; we went on the Sandy Bay road, but I did not relish my ride, as the Mare was very nearly lame with her poor heels.

Yesterday I rode D^r Hadley's chestnut; she was very timid of the habit at first, but went along so agreeably after we got on the road a little way.

[209] 23rd Monday. I've been for some days without my book; and I think I shall leave out several things which have occurred during the time.

On Friday it continued to rain, as it had for some days previously done, notwithstanding which, the Hunters sent their horses to the Wool-pack, at [sic] followed themselves; it was quite delightful to see so much devotion to the Chase! After "Ladies," what can be more infatuating!

William drove Miss Burnett up to New Norfolk, and they were rewarded for their courage in starting [in] such weather, by the following day being very fine.

I felt very ill the morning they started, and on Saturday I applied 23 leeches to my chest: they have weakened me a good deal, but I am so much better – and have this afternoon been for a ride on "Silver Bell"; She behaved better at mounting today, and will soon be quiet.

D^r Hadley returned from the hunt on Saturday evening, and came down to see me after dinner; Miss Buckland was here, and he escorted her home at ½ past 9. Glad as I was to see him, I felt a tinge of vexation in consequence, as the good people of this town are given to talking [210] and think it so improper, his paying me so much attention; I do'nt know that it is actually of any use fretting about what the Monde says; but I am vexed on William's account, as I know by sundry hints he has thrown out, that he feels it.

M^{rs} E. Bedford has been very kind, sitting with me every day; and Miss Buckland too = as to my old friend D^r MacWharrie, he has been all attention & kindness: he certainly is a rough jewel.

Tom Lyttleton has worried me a good deal, writing to William, and amongst other things saying, that a gentleman who had been to this house, asked him if I were to be married to D^r Hadley! Now really it was so malicious, so uncalled for, that I could not help writing, and telling him so; and here our correspondence ceases: he has lost me for a friend thro' it.

I received a delightful letter from my good old acquaintance, M^r Flower, enclosing a better! it gave me so much pleasure to read both, altho' I knew the contents

of one = and I did feel a slight annoyance at one part of it – notwithstanding my dislike of the Dog-in-the-Manger character. I can understand a little of the case, not all!

[211] 24th Tuesday. Miss Burnett and M^r Clarke dined with us yesterday; and the latter was in such spirits! William went into the dining room at 10 o'clock, to have leeches on, and M^r Chester Wilmot sat with him to smoke a cigar. M^r Clarke volunteered to take Miss Burnett home; and when he came back, he told me that going down the street, they came to a very uneven part, and he put his arm round her waist, to prevent her falling to the other side of the Cab, in which they were! Whereupon poor Miss Burnett screamed out “Oh! M^r Clarke, how can you”! The mischievous fellow laughed immoderately when he told me; and said that he explained to her why he did it – when she immediately said “Oh! yes, there are more very uneven places”! and came over towards him, a little. She is so queer – and good-hearted.

I went in to see M^{rs} E. Bedford after dinner to tell her that she had better postpone her party until Friday, on account of the Hunt on that day; otherwise there would be the best partners away from it = so she consented.

M^r Clarke has offered me his Mare on Thursday; she too, is a Novice with the Habit.

[212]⁸ M^r Dry came by the Mail this morning; and is looking very well: he is staying with us, I believe, but have scarcely seen him.

In the afternoon I anticipated a ride, but as M^r Clarke could not come, and William was not well enough, I drove out instead = much to my own, and D^r Hadley's mortification! It was all the better; and I went to Lipscombe's to buy fruit trees, and then shopping a little; & then to M^{rs} Roberts'. This little lady said very tartly, when speaking of M^{rs} E. Bedford, “Yes, she called over just after we were married, to secure our practice, but never since”!

Oh! I understand that the Archdeacon is sadly disappointed in there being no chance of a family. M^{rs} Marriott will never have any children = and before she was married, he asked her father, if he thought she would have any – to which Major Schaw said “Why her sister & Mother have both large families; I see no reason why she should not have, too”.

I wrote to M^r Baxter with the trees; I suppose he will grumble as usual, altho' I do give them to him: there are 20 fine trees for my garden.

⁸ Unpaginated in original

[213]⁹ 25th Wednesday. William did not return home until 7 o'clock this morning; so that between walking, dining at the Mess, and a few etc's, he is in pain with his ankle today.

After M^r Dry had finished his breakfast, and Annie had said her lessons, I walked round to M^{rs} Maclean's, where I had a long chat. Mrs Bedford rode to Bridgewater; and as we were starting for our ride in the afternoon, we met her. M^{rs} Drake went with D^r Hadley & myself for a ride; & our return, M^r Lockner joined us. The Misses Burnett called today, & tonight Miss Grey with them; She is a pretty girl, but I had scarcely time to look well at her. We found William out, and M^r Dry asleep; he went to M^r Barrow's to dinner, and returned a little after 10 o'clock, just as D^r Hadley left. I wonder if M^{rs} Barrow entertained him with any small anecdotes of my proceedings! I know she takes a great interest in me.

I'm reading "Tom Burke", and like it, as I do all of Lever's works; he is thoroughly gentlemanly in his writing.

We were talking of M^{rs} C—I this evening; [214]¹⁰ & mon frère said, "I don't wish to see too much of her, as I think I should get fond of her, & I would not like to neglect my old friend, bless her"!

I went round to M^{rs} Buckland's for cuttings; & Mary gave me some Violets.

On Tuesday Night after I left the gentlemen, I was standing by my fire, when a rap came at my door, and I said "Come in"; so in walked M^r Clarke; & he remained there, whilst I looked for some money in my Dressing-Case: he said "Oh! how nice – So Snug! So neat! and this is where you write! Well, now, do write me a line, whenever you wish me to ride – and I'll really come". How shocked Miss Burnett would have been.

26th Thursday. After breakfast, I went round to M^{rs} Bedford's to see Miss Mary Scott; she is looking very well, altho' not pretty. For some time after coming home, I stood in the Dining Room with M^r Dry, but scarcely spoke a word, notwithstanding my wish to do so.

I do'nt know how it is, but I feel so thoroughly wretched now when I meet him! so different from olden Times – when I bounded to his side with such true glee & happiness!– ah! he may find many friends in name, but he will [215] never know one

⁹ Unpaginated in original

¹⁰ Not paginated in original.

more true or loving, than I have been. All is past; and I know but too well, how we both start afresh in this World.

The Misses Burnett called early, to ask me if one of them might give up her place at table to her brother, M^r John. Of course I agreed to it, and they left contented: – M^{rs} Roberts and her two “charges” passed the day with me; and in the afternoon we walked up to the Band, accompanied by M^{rs} Curl. William recommended this little lady to commence making a dozen Shirts for her husband! = she says she never did like work, nor ever shall.

M^r Clarke sent me a delightful note asking me to ride “Meta” with him; but being engaged to the Band, I declined. When we returned in the evening, we found M^r Clarke here, and he so quietly patted my hand, in such a truly brotherly way – that if I had ever before doubted it, I now feel quite certain, he loves some person (to the Attorney-General unknown!) very sincerely; & has only kindness of feeling to bestow on myself and others.

William and M^r Dry dined with D^r Hadley at Mess, so Miss Buckland came round & sat with me. She has such a bad cold = & we amused ourselves occasionally coughing in Concert.

[216] I paid M^{rs} Pratt a short visit this afternoon. D^r Dawson came to see me, and spoke so kindly, and like himself – that I feel inclined to accede to his, & another’s, wish tomorrow morning. It is not affectation in me, but I have such a repugnance to anything of the kind – altho’ I know that Medical Men think nothing of such things – and forget that they may have occurred! I cannot help it! – and I suppose I do want Moral Courage as a friend tells me.

28th Saturday – Yesterday morning, at 7 o’clock, the Cab came with D^r Hadley to take William to Richmond; after taking their coffee, they departed, looking very cold – but eager!

I had several visitors in the way of ladies during the day: in the afternoon Annie & I went for a drive to several Shops. M^r J. and Miss Burnett dined with us, and William returned from Richmond only just in time for that meal.

Miss Buckland came in at 8 o’clock to dress my hair; and really made it look almost respectable.

[217] M^r Dry did not go with us to M^{rs} E. Bedford’s: he had a bad head-ache, and besides which, neither M^{rs} Barrow, [n]or M^{rs} Kay were to be there.

M^{rs} Bedford did the honors so well, going from one to the other in such a polite & kind way = and her good husband too, so quietly attentive.

There were a good many persons there, and the ladies looked very well; Captain Mair is pleased to say that they dress better here, than in Melbourne.

This remark of his, made me think of M^r Campbell saying, “Ah! how I wish you would to go Melbourne, and show the ladies how to dress , how to converse; how to behave, in fact! You would have complete sway, for there is not one to even rival you in any one thing – excepting M^{rs} Wickham, in beauty!” How I laughed at him about this speech – which I obstinately maintained he had learned for the occasion.

Mais revénons à nos moutons!¹¹ – (Yes, truly – more Sheep than Lambs!) Miss M. Scott looked well; Miss Power, better than I ever saw her – and M^{rs} Stevenson really pretty. Well, the evening passed off well, only broke up too early. M^r Lochnan, I pronounced one of ~~the~~ ^{if} not actually the best Polka dancer I ever met. I told him I was delighted in his dancing; & he was perfectly flattered by the compliment.

[218] I had a few small flirtations with M^r Clarke, and ended by his telling me I had better get M^r Lochnan for a partner, instead of him!

Miss Buckland, D^r Hadley, M^r Clarke & I returned in a Cab; William came home before Supper, being in pain with his ankle.

M^{rs} J. Burnett sang a nice little song; and if not strictly well, ’twas too obliging to criticize.

This morning Miss Buckland came in; then M^{rs} E. Bedford & Miss M. Scott; then the Misses Burnett, and D^r Hadley. The latter asked me to ride in the afternoon, but I refused, as I will not go alone with him; He had scarcely left, when M^r Clarke sent up to me to go , & I did so. We met D^r Hadley, and he came with us for such a glorious canter.

30th Monday – I went to church yesterday afternoon with Miss Buckland & the children. Mess^{rs} Clarke, Dry & Lochnan, and D^r Hadley dined with us.

This morning M^{rs} Curl paid me a visit; she is a very queer little uneducated mortal; but appears good humoured – and lonely, in consequence of having left a family, and circle of friends at home.

¹¹ Let’s get back to our subject (but let’s return to our sheep [literal] (French). In context the expression is used literally rather than figuratively to refer to the women AB is describing as “sheep.”

[219] How well do I recollect coming out here in the same way; a perfect stranger! And what kindness & affection I met with from friends here! I shall always love the country – and when I forget these friends, “may my right hand forget her cunning”!

M^{rs} E. Bedford went for a ride with us today – & she & William appeared to have some very good jokes between them, they were laughing so merrily.

William dined at M^r Roberts’; M^r Dry and I dined together; we were very mopish, and after dinner we had a long chat on his affairs. Poor fellow! He is sadly persecuted by his (or others, rather,) creditors – He is most likely not going to California in the David Malcolm; and all the better.

When William came home, he sat first with M^r Dry, and then with me; he said I did not tell him all my “Doings”, and told me I should do so, as I must know he would never find fault with me, and he liked to be ⁱⁿ my confidence.

31st Tuesday. Annie & I had the morning to ourselves, and I was busy darning socks – which I detest to see badly done: D^r Hadley came in before 1 o’clock, so I asked him to go up to William & chat with him. [220] He, who is so thoughtful in all else, is so exceedingly annoying in this one particular = he will, altho’ so frequently urged not to come before the hour for luncheon, come before; and instead of going away again, here he remains = so that persons coming to see me, always find him here, and hence the scandal & talk about it. I sometimes become so vexed at it, that I make myself quite ill = and all the good that “quiet” would do me, is lost in this one Vexation. I have only my own room to sit in, else I certainly would go, and at all events read by myself sometime during the day. Then the people say, and he too, amongst them, “You’re never happy alone”! – I often wish so earnestly that I had a chance.

Today Miss M. Scott rode with us, and we went to the Ferry: we met so many persons on the road, and it was such a lovely day.

Thinking I should be alone, I asked Miss Buckland to come and try some Duets, which she did; we had not commenced, when the Archdeacon came in, and we went on for his amusement. Soon after, in walked M^{rs} Bedford & Miss Scott – and at ½ past 8 o’clock, came D^r Hadley & William; and soon after Mess^{rs} Lochnan & Johnson. [221] Then commenced practising the German Polka, etc – D^r Bedford came for his fair charges – and William saw Miss Buckland home. Mess^{rs} Dry & Clarke next made their

entrée,¹² looking, both of them, so very well. I only remained to say Good Night, & then came up and read.

Wednesday 1st of July [August]: I went with Annie into Town, accompanied by M^r Dry; he left us, and we went to two or three shops. I was so tired, I could scarcely crawl home; & was obliged to lie down on my bed until after luncheon time. I had just gone down to this, when D^r Hadley came in.

We made up our minds that the weather was too rainy and bleak, and that we would defer our ride, when Mess^{rs} Lochnan & Clarke came up: we were over-persuaded, and M^{rs} Bedford & Miss Scott went with us for a tour in the Paddock. It was so cold; and I could feel the ill effects at once on my chest –

William dined at Mess; and I had a delightful evening with Ada as my only companion; notwithstanding the pressing invites of M^{rs} Bedford, and Miss Burnett. [222] I finished the “Old Man’s Wanderings”, & returned it with a note to Miss Buckland. I may be wrong, but I imagine that the conversations respecting the peculiar style of building to be adopted for Churches, is merely an Allegory = and means that our religion should remain pure – uncontaminated; – not having Dissenters, and so forth. For to me it appears so absurd to think that pure, religious feelings may not be felt: that our Creator may not be as much praised, in one kind of building as another. Indeed I know, that there is more Worship in one of our small bush slab huts, than in a highly finished church; and perhaps too, I may as well give the reason – there are no galleries containing star-gazing crowds!

3rd Friday – We went to the Band yesterday = it was such a lovely day, and altho’ feeling very poorly, I quite enjoyed the whole proceeding. There were a good many persons there.

In the evening William dined at the Mess; and a few friends did us the pleasure of coming in. M^r & M^{rs} Curl, D^r & M^{rs} Bedford, Miss M. Scott, the Misses Burnett, Miss Buckland, D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} Fleming, Foster, Lochnan, Johnson, and Clarke. The latter came in very late, and in such a wild, merry mood! He really is very loveable in his way.

[223] This morning M^{rs} Curl went into town with me; and when we returned, we found the Misses Burnett here. D^{rs} MacWharrie & Hadley came in about 1 o’clock; and at ½

¹² Entrance (French).

past 2, we joined our equestrian friends, M^{rs} Bedford, Miss M. Scott, Misses M. Burnett & Allport. Mess^{rs} Clarke & Lochnan too came with us.

We had a very pleasant ride to Ridsden, and really looked quite formidable on our promenade thro' the town.

William & I had a long chat in the dining room after dinner; and indeed did not leave it until 10 o'clock – when he went up to see D^r Hadley.

Tomorrow they ride to Brown's River; I shall not go, as Annie is not well with a cold & cough.

7th Tuesday. On Sunday morning William drove me to Church, much against his will, I must allow – and therefore all the more amiable. He went with M^{rs} E. Bedford and Miss M. Scott to Brown's River the previous day. D^r Hadley & I rode out to meet them on their return, and had a nice canter. I do so like to ride alone with D^r Hadley! he is so entertaining, & kind.

M^r Lochnan was of the party too; he is regularly a Victim to the tender passion! As W.C. says, it must be the pretty face which has done it, for the lady, altho' a nice girl, has not very much to attract, or distract. [224] 'Tis a long way to come to find happiness! but what a glorious thing to find it at all! I fear very much that Sir W. Denison will have a most powerful rival in his Governorship – i.e. "Cupid"; in this most outlandish portion of the Globe.

Sunday afternoon D^r Hadley walked with me to M^{rs} E. Butler's; when finding her from home, we called in at M^{rs} Bedford's, where we met her. Mess^{rs} Lochnan and Clarke were there likewise.

Mess^{rs} Johnston, Lochnan, Clarke & D^r Hadley dined with us on Sunday; and Miss Buckland came in during the evening. Just before dinner M^r Johnston received an anonymous note, signed (not "Shoemaker", but) Maria Clements: It spoke of my brother's intended wedding with Miss Burnett, and mentioned both M^{rs} E. Bedford & M^{rs} Booth. How very disgraceful of men calling themselves gentlemen, to associate with these dregs of humanity, and mention to them even, a lady's name! And positively in this case, the woman's word is taken in preference to M^{rs} Booth's.

We had a merry evening, altho' I was far from well, indeed in pain some part of the evening.

[225] Yesterday afternoon W.C. promised to drive me to call on M^{rs} Turpie; I was very ill in the morning, but got better in the après-midi.¹³ When 3 o'clock came, I started with Martin to M^{rs} Dawson's, but she was from home; I then went to M^{rs} Drake's, and found her ready to go out shopping: so I took compassion on her, and drove her to Kisson's, where she made me choose her some laces for handkerchiefs; and then on to the Commissariat Store = I then returned home, and finding William still from home, went out to M^{rs} Booth's, where I sat more than half an hour.

The Misses Burnett called for a short time yesterday, and M^{rs} Curl; the latter asked us to go there in the evening, and have some music. I was too ill, and William fell asleep until 10 o'clock, when he awoke, and went to the Barracks. Soon after, he was replaced by that kindest of creatures, D^r Hadley, who came to see how I really was.

I this morning drove up to M^{rs} Dawson's, and found herself & sister at home; I went into D^r Dawson's room, and had a long talk with him, alone; he says he wishes me to continue the medicines as of late, and thinks that altho' he cannot possibly cure my pains, he can alleviate them. [226] For my own part, I think I'm giving unnecessary trouble = as I am unfit to live and enjoy God's blessings! Who can feel, and know, this better than I? Oh! how very ill I've been all today: – yet my bodily ailments are nothing in comparison with those of my mind!

Eh! bien¹⁴ – I sent my note to M^r Sturt; and after saying Adieu to M^{rs} Butler, drove D^r Dawson and Annette to M^{rs} Richardson's; I then came home, and have been very poorly ever since.

M^r & M^{rs} Mason called this evening. William went to New Norfolk with M^r Sharland this afternoon. M^r Montgomerie has returned, and brought me two notes from M^{rs} Lyttleton & Maria!

William & I got letters from M^r Smith, per "Grace Darling"; he likes China very well, but was anticipating very hot weather.

I dined alone, and after seeing the children to bed, I took "Hector O'Hallaran" into the drawing room; commenced reading, fell asleep, and there remained until John brought me a cup of coffee. D^r Hadley came in at 9 o'clock – and as he was going to leave at 11 o'clock, a loud knocking came at the door; I at first thought it was D^r MacWharrie, [227] and told D^r Hadley not to speak; so that he might think I was in bed; but after a time, came a ring at the bell, and then I knew it was William's. Upon opening the door,

¹³ Afternoon (French).

¹⁴ Eh! Well (French).

I espied both William & D^r MacWharrie smoking = they would not come in, and would not let D^r Hadley go with them: I think they were right, when they owned to the soft impeachment of having drank too much eeg-flip.

8th Wednesday. I'm better today; and it feels truly delightful to be free, in a manner, from pain. M^{rs} Drake went with D^r Hadley & myself for a ride in the afternoon; we were joined by M^r Fleming on our return.

William & I dined at D^r Agnew's; the rest of the party consisted of Captain & M^{rs} Booth, Mess^{rs} Smith, J. Gregson, and D^r MacWharrie.

I do like the gentleman of the house; he is so mild gentlemanly, and clever: then he is so fond of poetry too! His wife is a pretty little woman, with, I should say, "little in her". She sang; her voice is most powerful, but devoid of sweetness.

We returned a little after 10, as William was to go to M^r Burnett's; so when he had deposited me, he continued his route there; and I, not feeling sleepy, [228] sat down to the Piano, and amused myself for a long time singing – at some minutes past 11, a ring came at the bell, and upon my opening the door, I found three delinquents standing in the doorway! They were D^{rs} Hadley & Bedford, and M^r Lochnar; they came in, and sat for some little time with me. We nearly had a christening, & the "Infant" was D^r Hadley – sponsors M^r Lochnan, & M^r Bedford.

9th Thursday – M^{rs} E. Bedford sent in to ask me to take my work in, so I went. Just as I was coming away Mess^{rs} Baylis & Smith came in, so I waited; & then in came D^r Hadley. Miss Scott & I went into the Drawing room then; but I soon after left. The rain and bad appearance of the day altogether, prevented our going at the proper time to the Band, but we went up for a short time, & got caught in the shower. We then went to see M^{rs} Pratt, & sat there some minutes. M^{rs} Curl was with us, and we returned home just in time to receive Mess^{rs} Drake & Curl, and the Misses Burnett. Miss Buckland came in as we were going to dinner, and sang to us all the evening; I was so sleepy [229] & stupid, I could not keep my eyes open at all.

11th Saturday. Yesterday William drove M^r Roberts in a gig to Shooters Hill – at least they started for that delightful place; it is the residence of one Josiah Spode Esqr. – and this said Josiah, is the fortunate Father of two lovely daughters, named "Polly" and "Nell".

On dit, that when visitors stay at this Chatéau, the doors of the respective sleeping apartments are thrown open in the morning, (Reader, only then!) and every person joins

in the one conversation. Madame la mère¹⁵ is distinctly & visibly embonpoint;¹⁶ and I was amused by hearing that one morning her sposo in coming out of his chamber (like a bridegroom, rejoicing!) left the door open, and discovered to an astonished passer-by, the stout figure of the lady, standing in her flannel waistcoat, and shoes and stockings! M^{rs} E. Bedford and D^r Hadley sat here all the afternoon; and we talked & laughed most rationally, only once interrupted by D^r MacWharrie.

Poor little Louis was not very well; he is such a dear, good child to take medecine, or anything he is told. Just before William left, I took my pistol into his room, to show it to him; and the silly fellow pulled the trigger, and off it went in the room – filling it with smoke! As we read in accounts of accidents, etc, “No damage was committed”.

I went into M^{rs} Bedford’s to tea; and when I returned found Ann lying on the floor of my room, in a state of “insensibility”, to say the least of it; D^r Hadley, who brought me home, kindly carried her into her bed room, and left her on her bed. John, who was thoroughly asleep, had quietly retired to his couch; and I went into his room & took out the candle, without his being aware of it. Telle est la vie!¹⁷ and such the fearful results of Intemperance! Yet for all this, I cannot condemn my unfortunate fellow-creatures, for which of us is exempt from Sin, altho’ of different kinds. – I know my besetting sin – and oh! if I could but correct it! but I cannot as yet. How really fond I could be of being, and doing, good! I do most positively believe that I have only this one Vice – & soon it might be corrected – Hélas,¹⁸ for human nature! “the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak”. –

It must be my complaint which makes me feel at times so regularly desponding, and I would then give the Universe to be at rest – to have that Peace, which the World cannot give.

But to return to every day matters. This morning [230] I had just risen, when John came to me & said that Martin was galloping Zoë about the streets, and that he was in a sad state of intoxication. I wrote up immediately to my kind friend D^r Hadley, and he sent down Harefield, that invaluable man, who has been attending to the Mare – and Martin, whom a Constable has taken off to the Watch house, is out of my sight for a time, at least. I almost hate the creature, for treating my poor horse so ill!

¹⁵ The mother (French).

¹⁶ Plump (*OED*) (French phrase = *en bon point* = in good condition)

¹⁷ Such is life (French).

¹⁸ Alas (French).

D^r Hadley came down just after breakfast, and whilst he was here, D^r Dawson came to see me; the latter is going across the country this afternoon, and amused me very much by saying how miserable he was alone! that after 10 o'clock, he did not know what to do with himself = and he was sure the servants wished him anywhere but at home, for he found himself parading about the house at 6 o'clock in the morning! So much for Bachelor-husbands! they cannot do at all without their help-metes.

I really have written considerably this morning, so now to work & reading.

12th Sunday. Last evening D^r Hadley passed here, but left at a very reasonable hour. My servants, John & Ann, were both perfectly stupified with drink, and I was obliged at last to threaten to tell the latter's Father: this sobered her at once.

[231]¹⁹ We none of us went to Church, not even the soldiers those regular attendants; (par nécessité –)²⁰ it rained so much, and looked so extremely dull & wet.

William returned from New Norfolk about luncheon time, and after sitting a short time, walked up to M^{rs} Roberts'. M^r Roberts returned last night, and brought Peter; when he went home, he found his wife had not been to bed for the two nights he was away. How exceedingly absurd! because it is not anxiety or love that makes her act thus. She said to W.C. once, "Oh! John cannot live above two years; so do'nt marry until then"!

D^r Hadley dined with us. I wrote to M^{rs} Jacquier, and Louis did so too, he really did it very well, considering it was his first attempt. How pleased she will be with it! I wrote to Harriet likewise, but only in part, so I must finish it tomorrow, as the Mannion is said to be sailing then for London.

13th August Monday – This morning Captⁿ Stanley died; he has only been ill during the week. It is sad indeed when a person is taken off in this sudden way; in the prime of life! – It makes us truly to know that "in the midst of life, we are in Death"! His wife will feel his loss much, as they were very attached ^{even} from children.

[232] M^{rs} Curl sat with me some time this morning, & remained to luncheon, she is a strange little body, and amuses me considerably with her little grumbling ways: I do'nt think tho', for all that, that she is bad tempered. The Misses Burnett too, paid me a morning call, and were profuse in their thanks for the Chinese fan and cuffs. Maryann was going to Richmond, but finds that M^r Schaw forgot to send her letter, stating she would be there. A pleasant man to send a message by.

¹⁹ Unpaginated in original.

²⁰ By/ of necessity (French).

Dear me! I shall be obliged to put off the (account of) [the] Duel; and perhaps the parties engaged therein would like to have done the same!

My visit to the St Mary's Hospital likewise must be left for another Journal. I wonder where my next will be finished? whether at all? Because if I were living with any person to whom I could confide all my petites secrets, régrettes etc – I should never trouble a book with lines!

My whims, my queer humours – are they not written in this work of mine?

/1849 –

Notebook 12 (MS. Q182 Item 1): 14 August 1849 – 12 December 1849

Hobart Town

Vol: 16th 1849

[1] And I find myself on this 14th day of August, in the Year of our Lord One thousand, eight hundred, and forty-nine, turning over a new leaf – in the form of a Journal – Well! it will at all events be a merrier one than my last, in some respects – so commençons.

Well! the Duel was between Mess^{rs} M^cDowell & F. Smith – they fired twice; when the challenger (M^r S.) considered that he had enough, and went off the field, retaining the title of “Liar” which his antagonist had given him. So much for men making fools of themselves; and Judges allowing such disgraceful language in Court!

We were asked to dine at M^r Drake’s – and William did so – M^r Dry likewise; but I stayed at home, and M^{rs} E. Bedford partook of beefsteak pudding with me.

[2] After Mess, M^r E. Bedford & D^r Hadley came in and sat until 10 o’clock.

Thursday. Yesterday morning M^r Dry drove the children and myself as far as the Union; I then took the reins, and went as far as the turnpike with them. Poor little things! they have the hooping cough, and so I take them for a drive every morning.

In the afternoon I rode Zoë, accompanied by Captain Main & D^r Hadley; She carried me very nicely, and I expect rather fast – as we were so soon home.

M^r & M^{rs} J. Burnett, D^r & M^{rs} Agnew, M^r Dry and Captⁿ Macmichael dined with us; and some gentlemen came in after – M^r & M^{rs} Curll too. Miss Burnett would not come, owing to her quarrel with William; so Mary Ann came alone.

[3] There were several more gentlemen than ladies, and we were rather slow, I think.

I wrote to M^r Lochnar in the morning, asking him to come, and saying I would let him off “Scot free” = He sent me back for answer, that he would be very happy to come, being “Scot free” at present!

D^r Hadley left early with Captⁿ MacMichael; he is far from well – and I regret so much to see him thus. Miss Buckland luncheoned with me, and whilst we were chatting away, D^r Hadley fell fast asleep. We all called him, but it was of no use; so we agreed to go out of the room, and leave him. We were commencing our plan, when a book he had been reading, fell on the floor, and awoke him.

This morning I went round before breakfast to see Miss Buckland, and pay her for some pretty chemise silks which I bought of[f] her.

[4] At 11 o'clock Mary Ann Burnett came up with her small trunk; and after "fixing" the two children, I drove to "Risden Ferry", where after waiting ½ an hour, I deposited my charge, as we saw Major Schaw's voiture on the opposite side of the River. We got back exactly at 1, to the children's dinner; and found D^r Hadley coming to see us.

In the afternoon, as I did not ride, he read to me from "Hector O'Hallaran", and I copied some music. Captain Pratt & M^r Montgomerie called for a few minutes – and I have since copied "Lucy Neal" for the former of the two.

Miss Buckland dined with us, and soon after dinner, William fell asleep, and never woke until 10 o'clock, when called to take my Guest home. [5] D^r Hadley came in during the evening. M^r Dry came home early: he has had his likeness taken, but I don't think very correctly – perhaps not the first time, it has ^{been} done in the same way! I mean incorrectly.

20th Monday. Some days have elapsed, & I have not written in my book; it's very neglectful. I never take an interest in anything New, not even a new dress! This latter by the bye, is to me an immense nuisance! I am quite of Dourin Sampson's opinion in this, and would actually put on anything that was placed for me to wear, rather than have the trouble of choosing, get it made, etc. It is [not] for want of Vanity = because sometimes I know I look well; and am quite pleased with doing so – but it is a carelessness, as to actual dress.

I've read "Hector O'Hallaran"; sent home "Lorenzo de Medici", [6] which is extremely well written by one William Roscoe; and am now deep in the Memoirs of Madame du Barri. I had no idea from reading only Joseph Balsamo, how exceedingly common as well as pretty, she was. Why she appears to have given herself to anybody who requested or could pay her. I have christened M^{rs} Barrow, by Madame's name! On Sunday M^r Clarke came to see me; the second time only since Captain Stanley's death. Poor M^{rs} Stanley! how sincerely I pity her! left alone in a World where she had so much real happiness; that is to say, they were so happy in themselves.

M^{rs} Drake accompanied D^r Hadley & I in our ride today; Zoë went very well indeed. Captain Main left this morning, as the Steamer came in on Saturday, to Launceston. I shall be glad if he come back again, and I will then pay him more attention.

[7] Wednesday. Clayson was here today, and wanted to see if William could do anything for himself and family. He has two children who cannot walk! This reminds me of a Man in Belfast, who came to us for charity, and who had 3 pairs of twins! We gave them a Cow & calf – and I told him to go to D^r Aplin, who is so charitable: to my

amazement, the Doctor came down to Yambuck, and said he would give nothing – “For”, said he, “it is only encouraging them to have three the next time”!

I’ve not been out riding since Monday; the weather has been too windy and dusty. William has dined out every day this week, [8] commencing on Sunday; when M^r Dry and D^r Hadley dined with me.

The Misses Burnett came on Monday evening, and just before they came in, D^r Hadley had ventured down from Mess; whilst we were upstairs, he went off.

M^{rs} Brock & Miss Grey were here today; Miss Burnett and her sister; Mistresses Roberts & Cully; and M^{rs} Agnew – whom I accompanied as far as her house, on my way to see M^{rs} Richardson.

This morning I went with M^{rs} Bedford down to Robertson’s to purchase a dress. After my dinner, D^r Hadley read to me, and I finished M^{rs} Lyttleton’s stool, at last. I had a letter from her yesterday, in which she tells me that the children have the hooping cough badly.

M^r Dry is not going to California; poor soul! he is sadly disappointed at it! – altho’ persons have kindly intimated that he never intended doing so at all!

[9] I have this evening copied a song written to M^r J. Smith – and read; besides singing for some time. I’m always happy when alone – Yes! fond as I may appear of many persons to group around me – still my heart is lonely now – and ever will be!

Oh! John went to wait at M^r Morrison’s this evening, and returned exactly at 10, in a state of inebriety! Some man, who came to see him home, rang at the bell, and I answered it, and asked “who was there”? “Your butler, Ma’am” – said a voice. “Walk in”; said I. Nobody in the form of a Butler appearing, I took the liberty of again asking where was the stray sheep? He’s gone to the back gate Ma’am”, [10] so away I went, to open the back door. – I had scarcely done this, when back to the other door both men came; in walked John, and turning round to the friend who had just brought him home, said “Who are you? and what do you want? If it is money, I have none for you”! “I wants no money”, rejoined the quondam associate, “I only called to bring you home”. “Oh! very well, then I’m all safe; so Good Night” – said John.

After shutting the door, he began telling me that he had been out to M^r Morrison’s, and had had some small beer – or something else in a small way – I finished all, by bursting out into a laugh – and he then said, “Oh! I see you know all about it Ma’am” –

2[]²¹ – Monday. I positively cannot find time, (without denying myself to callers) to write in this book every day. I get up early, and I go to bed late [11] – and yet I cannot get half time enough for what I have to do.

The children have both the hooping cough, and are too poorly to go down stairs, excepting when they go for a drive in the morning.

On Saturday, we dined on board the “Montauk”; there were 12 of us, and we had a pleasant party; all adjourned here in the evening, with the exception of Captain MacMichael.

D^r Hadley preferred going to the hunt at Bothwell; and therefore remained the better part of the day at M^r Tooth’s, instead of returning to our party: he says he had a violent head ache; and as he looked ill on Sunday, I suppose he must be believed.

M^r Roberts came in from the hunt, and had tea here; I like him better than her. [12]

There is something, to me, repulsive in her: I know she is not cleanly in her person, and this of itself is sufficient to disgust me with any person.

Amongst other news going about, is a family piece of such import to the parties concerned; it is that at length M^{rs} P. Kay has repaid her husbands toils, by proving to be in a most interesting situation! M^r H. Kay upon hearing it, said, “Oh! there’s some chance for me, then”! She gives up school at Christmas, and takes to the ~~school~~ Nursery – as she cannot do two things! –

After going for a ride round the Domain today, accompanied by M^{rs} Drake and D^r Hadley, I went to St Mary’ Hospital, and took a hot bath. It was so delightful, I could have remained there much longer, had it not been that I began to feel faint. [13] There was a young man in the next Bath, and he was busy using a — which made such a noise, I could scarcely prevent laughing. There is no ceiling to the room, and I fancied to myself whilst undressed, how comical a head over the top of the wall would look!

M^r Dry, who is still with us, does not intend now going to California; he is grievously disappointed with the cause, I believe, and had reckoned most confidently on it. Poor fellow! he has indeed much to contend with; and how very sincerely I feel for him. He tells me much more of his affairs now, than he used; and behaves to me in the most friendly manner. I at times surprise him, looking so intently on my face; but I never seem to notice it. How dearly I love him! he is one in a thousand.

²¹ The stand alone two suggests that AB was not sure of the date. An entry for the previous Monday is dated 20th.

[14] On dit, there is likely to be an elopement between Miss Power & M^r Berrison; the young lady strongly recommends it, and says that when they have been away a few days, her Papa will be glad to forgive them, and allow her £100 a year! Rather dear at that, I should say, if one is to believe the rest of the scandal of her. William heard from D^r Robertson today; his letter reminds me of himself – how I dislike him! Harriet too, has favored William with a long letter! Dear old soul! She does write so queerly! and actually in condoling with him for Bessie's death, speaks of his forming another alliance. Oh! how people look upon Marriage as a mere matter of convenience! And I shall never be able to prove to any one, how differently I think of it. –

The Misses Burnett were paying me a visit; [15] and amused me very much about their little dog "Vic"; Mary Ann said her Papa had sent her up to D^r Dawson's; (to Ti —) and this without ever consulting her as to whether she wished Vic to have any more little ones, or not!

M^{rs} Miller by the bye has a son! how proud the old man must be of his attempts succeeding! —

Tuesday. We have had a nice ride today to Ridsen: M^{rs} E. Bedford, D^r Hadley & M^r Lochnar with me. It has been such a lovely day; and in consequence I allowed the children to run about the garden, instead of driving them. I went with William to the Hospital, and sat there with poor M^{rs} Richardson for some time. She is in very great pain, poor thing! and appeared so glad to see me; I mended her night gown for her whilst sitting with her. [16] On a former occasion when I visited her, she told me of the way in which she became so much injured during her confinement – said it was owing to a woman who attended her; and ended by telling me that D^r Officer had been with her during eight previous accouchements; and that it was ill luck made her employ a woman this time; = but, she would have D^r Officer to attend her next time! I amused the women in the Ward by exclaiming, "Oh! surely you'll have no more"! Really such persons can have little or no intense pain or pleasure; for this unfortunate[,] one would suppose[,] had[,] had quite enough agony with this infant, to prevent her ever looking at a man again. —

29th Wednesday. Yesterday, as I was returning home, I visited M^{rs} Macdonald; she has had a letter from M^r Macgregor; he and his wife had a long passage to Port Fairy.

[17] Willlliam and M^r Dry both dined ~~at the~~ out; I had expected M^{rs} E. Bedford in to tea, but she did not come; D^r Hadley came in just as I had taken mine, and sat some little while with me. He was, when he came in, in such a funny humour, having just left

the dinner table = poor fellow! I made him, I fear rather unhappy – altho' I think that he deserved it, really.

Today I did not go out, it was a strange day, neither raining or shining. In the morning Miss Buckland brought her work and sat with me – D^r Hadley came in to luncheon: William next sat a[nd] read to me; then came M^r Dry, M^r Sharland & Mary Ann Burnett.

M^{rs} Bedford paid me a visit too; and brought in her work after dinner. Mess^{rs} Sharland & Dry dined with us.

[18] There is some strange report going abroad relative to M^{rs} M—e at Mona Vale, 'tis affirmed that a prisoner servant was found in her room; and moreover, that he is only one of three, who enjoy her intimate acquaintance. Can this be possible? How very wretched for Robert Ker mode, if so!

I had a chat with M^r O'Reilly yesterday; he is strikingly like poor Captⁿ O'Hara: Something that occurred today, reminded me of what I did in his case. When he found that his love was not sufficiently returned, he settled £600 per annum on the object of it; and when he died, I read it (the Will, which was given in my charge –) and before Captⁿ T— [19] & Col: P—t, burnt it; so that all his money went to a person named Davy, whom he cared nothing about. “At all events,” he would say, “you’ll be free of that wretch”! meaning B—

I am much entertained with Madame du Barri's Memoirs; she writes very nicely, and in a most agreeable style.

Today I commenced a cigar case for Captⁿ MacMichael, but I may not finish it for him. 30th Thursday. The fates conspired against us today, and the rain coming down in earnest, made us lose the (to me,) extreme pleasure of hearing the Band.

D^r Hadley sat with me all the afternoon, and read some part of the time, whilst I worked. They talk of going to the “Wool-pack” tomorrow; I don't envy them, if this weather continue.

[20] I had a letter from M^r Flower this morning, in which he tells me that tomorrow is fixed for a Hunt Ball in Belfast: I suppose it is the last meet of the Hounds for this season, as the country is very wet.

D^r MacWharrie was my only visitor; and he and D^r Hadley had quite an amusing discussion, relative to some poor embeccile [sic] person, going to the Lunatic Assylum. Both William and M^r Dry dined out; and I had the evening to my own cogitations.

This morning I wrote to M^{rs} Lyttleton – and am going to send over to the Parsonage, the box of books which M^r Davies lent me some time ago, and which I received on Saturday by the Clarence. I must write to M^{rs} Rutledge and congratulate her on the birth of her little boy; would that it's Father were another than he is!

[21] 2nd [September] Sunday – The last three days have been so miserably wet, that I've not been outside the door, with the exception of walking to M^{rs} Burnett's on Friday afternoon; Miss Grey is staying with them, and I am entertained by a small flirtation which is being carried on between my brother & this young lady. She is very pretty, and a regular Coquette: evidently only skin deep, for her manner is trifling & foolish. But the beauty is the thing for William! it has been, and will continue, his bane thro' life. Strange with so fine a sense of the ludicrous, and stupid – that he should delight so much in external attractions. C'est différent²² tho' with M^{rs} R—. I cannot find out anything external there!

On Friday evening the Misses Burnett, Grey and Buckland came here; William went for them in a Cab; and D^r Hadley too, came. [22] M^r Dry remained the whole of that night, until 5 o'clock on Saturday morning, in a Billiard Room. Poor soul! Captain MacMichael paid me a visit on Friday; he is a funny old gentleman, & has some very amusing anecdotes: some, I believe, too good to repeat to everybody. I despatched the box of books to M^r Davies, and wrote to both Maria & M^{rs} Lyttleton; I hope they will receive the box before D^r Dawson comes back, as I wish my bonnet brought over by Madame.

M^{rs} E. Bedford came to see me yesterday: I like her better than anybody here. D^r Hadley dined with us: I offended him in the afternoon, by my rudeness = but he is so very forgiving – so amiable, that he deserves a life of happiness, which I'm afraid at present, is not his.

[23] Miss Buckland brought me some ribbon she had purchased for me: 'tis very pretty. I intend getting my clothes ready for the Voyage. William talks of going home in January. Oh! how I shall regret this Country, and some of my friends here.

M^r Dry and William are gone for a drive with the children, as far as Ridsden Ferry. This morning, to my amazement, William was up & dressed in time for Church; he evidently intended going there, and asked me if I were? I felt unwell, so refused; beside which, he promised to never go again whilst in Hobart Town; in fact, he said "I vow to

²² It is different (French).

God, I never will". Now I never have, and never will I hope, be the means of any one breaking their oath! [24] Besides I know it was only to meet the fair Fanny – and Church is not a place to make an assignation in. – When he found I was not going, he gave it up – and we all breakfasted together, for the first time. D^r MacWharrie came in whilst we were at that meal. The children are much better.

3rd Monday. Yesterday Mess^{rs} Clarke, Dry, Montgomerie, & D^r Hadley dined with us; M^{rs} E. Bedford came in to sit after dinner – I was ill in heart and body: I don't know what it is that makes me feel so intensely wretched.

This morning M^{rs} Bedford came into town with me, and I drove her first to the Engineer Office, where I had to deliver a letter to my old Engineer. We next went to Lewis', and M^{rs} Bedford tried on several pretty Polkas. she said she was sorry she could not buy one, [25] and the Foreman said it was a pity, for all the prettiest would be bought up directly, and only the refuge left!

We went for a ride to O'Brien's Bridge in the afternoon; William started with us, but left us at the Maypole. I found he has been sitting with Miss Grey. – He'll soon tire of her! I received a letter from dear Harriet, enclosing notes from Annie and Woodward; The former gave me grief for a few minutes about money matters = but it was not, to do myself justice, it was not the actual loss of the money that grieved me! It was a feeling that came to make me think how strange it appeared in a sister to try and better herself in any way at the expense of another! Oh! my feelings, my ideas, are I fear very primitive & rustic! I so thoroughly try in every way to carry out the Golden Rule of "Do unto others that which we would wish them to do unto us". – Charity – in every sense, I love –

[26] 7th Friday. Nothing of very considerable import has taken place since I wrote = I've had several agreeable rides on Zoë, who is improving much in her paces.

Last evening I went into M^{rs} E. Bedford's; William dined there, and some other gentlemen. The creature has dined out every day this week, and commences again on Monday.

I had an invitation to go on board the Montauk yesterday but preferred the Band.

In the morning I went down to see Miss Burnett about Annie going to New Norfolk with her; she was saying she did not mind going in the Coach, if even a child were with her – I knew that D^r Hadley was going up there today, so I said, "I daresay D^r Hadley would not mind going in the Coach with you". [27] "Oh! I would much rather go alone, than with him; I do'nt like him as you do"! "'Tis mutual": was all I could say; I felt the blood

rush to my face, and the tears to my eyes – I got up immediately, and said Good day; she said “Oh! I’m sorry I said so much”, and many other things; but nothing will ever make me like her again.

In the afternoon we all went to the Band, and there met an Officer of the 58th, named Ward; he was directly smitten with Miss Grey; and she took to him kindly: He accompanied her here, and William asked them in = they sat some time here, together with M^{rs} Roberts, M. Burnett, Mess^{rs} Montgomerie, Lochnar, and D^r Hadley.

William & M^r Dry dined at D^r Bedford’s; and I went in during the evening. [28] I had far better have remained at home, as I fell asleep nearly. I cannot account for an unusual sleepiness which steals over me every evening during the last 10 days; on dit, it is cold, so I hope it will soon pass.

During the week a sad report prevails about Miss P—r; they say she is enceinte,²³ and that in consequence, her Parents have given consent to her marriage with M^r Berrison of the 99th. A marriage of this description, with such persons, is unlikely to prove a happy one.

9th Sunday. On Friday William drove Captⁿ MacMichael & D^r Hadley up to New Norfolk; Miss Burnett was to have gone with him; but finding who his companion was to be, preferred taking Annie with her in the Coach. She is without any exception, the most stupidly prudish woman I ever met; [29] The idea of her not going in the carriage with Captⁿ MacMichael because he was a “Yankee Skipper”! and yet she did not object to go on board his Ship to dinner! She is silly to give herself all these foolish airs, as it naturally causes people to ask who she is, to be entitled to do so? I was really vexed with her; yet I did not tell William the reason, as I knew he [would] feel hurt, & naturally so. M^{rs} Roberts and I rode with D^r Hadley as far as O’Brien’s bridge; he then sent his Mare home by Harefield. M^r Lochnar came up with us just as we got to the “Kensington Inn”, and rode back [with] us. I took my work in, and sat with M^{rs} E. Bedford. D^r & M^{rs} Dawson have returned, and brought Miss Walker with them; they say poor little Annie Davies is so extremely ill; and D^r Dawson has told M^r Davies that the only chance of saving her life, is to send her to George Town. Poor child! she has had typhus fever, as well as hooping cough.

[30]Yesterday I walked down to M^{rs} Agnew’s, & called to ask after M^{rs} Richardson; I then went on to Robin Hood’s, Walch’s, Jones’ & Webb’s. My next step

²³ Pregnant (French).

was into a Cab; & home. I met M^r Montgomerie, who kindly volunteered a ride; so at ½ past 2 o'clock we started – were joined by M^r Johnson, and proceeded to O'Brien's Bridge, where we espied our three friends from New Norfolk. I certainly did enjoy my ride exceedingly; both my companions were so chatty & agreeable. William dined at M^r J. Dunn's; and D^r Hadley passed the evening with me. He was in a queer humour, and attributed it to the Madeira he had taken.

[31] I've not been to church today, as my cough is very troublesome. Several persons called in the afternoon. & amongst others, M^r Roberts, who sat for some time with us; He certainly is, far from a "polished" man; nevertheless, he appears to be good natured enough, and is generous to a fault with regard to his wife. 'Twould be a singular thing indeed, if she were not handsomely dressed, for she is clothed by two husbands. Now, when I come to look at the above, it appears scandalous! but it is true. D^r Hadley Mess^{rs} Clarke and Montgomerie dined with us: they did not remain late, and William went into town to look after Tom, who came into town this evening, and called with two letters for M^r Dry; the latter only returned from M^r Gregson's quite late tonight.

[32] I went in to see M^{rs} E. Bedford, whom I found sitting in her bed room with poor little Sidney; She was crying, and appeared in very melancholy mood. I asked her to come in during the evening, but she was not in sufficiently merry humour.

'Tis sometimes a matter of enquiry to me, whether, if I had been happily married, I should have been a better woman than I am! Whether my temper, so unusually passionate, would have softened down to the médiocre thing it now is = and I generally answer myself in the same way – and wish, oh! how very sincerely, I could be somewhere by myself, for as I get older, I verily believe I get worse!

[33] 10th Monday. I was sitting in the Dining Room this morning, between 9, and 10 o'clock, waiting as usual for my guest's appearance at the breakfast table; when William returned home in a Cab, and so ill, as to be obliged to go to bed. I do'nt know how disgusted I feel at seeing anybody I love, look so very horribly dissipated as he did. He went last night as I said, to look for Tom, and found him, he says at the "Ship" – M^r Montgomerie says the "Freemason's" – I say nothing, but think I know better than either of these tales! However, he passed his night out; and is now in bed.

I drove Louis & Eliza up to M^{rs} Roberts', and she came back with me, as far as M^{rs} Green's; I then went on, and saw M^{rs} Dawson, and Miss Walker, and sat some time with them. [34] We had quite a laugh at little "Tiger", M^{rs} Dawson's terrier being disappointed of his wife! "Yes Ti", said his Mistress, "we are too late this once; but

better luck next time”! Ti seemed to fancy he would rather have a bird in hand, than two in the Bush. –

D^r Dawson paid me a visit in the afternoon, and I’m sorry to see that he looks very little the better for his trip across the country. He was saying that the day M^{rs} Dawson left this, he heard that her favorite sister, M^{rs} Phelps, was not expected to live, having a cancer in the mouth. He never told his wife of it during their visit, in case of it’s marring her enjoyments; and allowed the secret to prey on his own mind until their return home. Now had I been told this without knowing the person, I could have imagined his true kindness of heart from this alone. [35] He certainly is a dear, good creature; and she knows it too, and returns his love, I think. – I cannot fancy any woman with such an indulgent good husband, ever for an instant, paying or allowing attentions to, or from, any other man!

11th Tuesday. William kept his bed all day, and in the evening dined with M^r Fleming. M^r Dry dined out and I was alone all the evening, as I did not feel well enough to go to M^{rs} E. Bedford’s who kindly asked me to do so. Mess^{rs} Montgomerie and Akers paid William a visit, and M^{rs} Bedford sat some time with me – as did D^r Hadley, and M^r Clarke. It has been a miserably wet day, so no going out to ride, for me.

12th Wednesday. “Handsome is, that handsome does;” says the old proverb! and I cordially coincide with it. This morning I received a note from our pretty little acquaintance, Miss Grey = [36] and I positively at first thought she had written it in fun; as it contains so many blunders! – I shall give a true copy here, as I suppose the original must be committed to the flames – oblivion, never!

“My dear M^{rs} Baxter

You will think I have very great presumption in writing to you but on consideration I begin to quake about coming to you, if you have so large a party as twenty people! It quite alarm’s me and I am sure dear M^{rs} Baxter you will coincide with me, considering I have not yet made my *début*! and also my having refused M^{rs} Bedford’s on that account! “I hope you will not think me rude in having mentioned this to you” I should like much to come if there were only a few, [37] but if you have asked them; I must only plead the excuse of having tumbled down and sprained my ankle!!!!

Marianne writes with me in hoping that your Brother, (Nettle) is better –
& believe me

Very sincerely yours

(Signed) Fanny A. F. G—y

“Kettleton Abbey”

Tuesday Morning —”

Vive l’amour, et la “Bagatelle” dis-je!²⁴ — How sad a thing to see a remarkably pretty girl of eighteen, spell in this manner!

I went with M^{rs} Bedford & D^r Hadley to eat Mutton pies at Webb’s at 1 o’clock; and our horses were brought down there to us; we then went for a ride to Ridsen. The wind was very bleak on our return, and it has made my cough worse rather. [38] We met D^r & M^{rs} Brock, and Maria Schaw; the latter looks very “seedy” (how ladylike!) and M^{rs} Brock, uncommonly jovial! M^r Lochnar joined us near the Maypole, and we went home together.

In the evening Marianne & Miss Grey, M^{rs} E. Bedford, Mess^{rs} Bedford, Johnston, Lochnar, and D^r Hadley came. They Polka’d away to their “heart’s content,” and I played for them; I did not indulge in la danse.*²⁵

13th Thursday. In the morning I drove into town, and got my cigar-case; went to Lewis’ and then home; Saw William in town, with M^{rs} Roberts & M^{rs} Cully.

M^{rs} Curll had luncheon with me; Captⁿ Pratt came too. I had asked this gentleman to escort us to the Band, as D^r Hadley was going on board the “Montauk”; but the latter altered his mind and went to the Band instead. [39] Louis & Eliza came down with M^{rs} Roberts, and they remained at home, whilst we went to the Flag Staff. M^r Lochnar met us, and I asked him, as the two young ladies from Macquarie Street had not made their appearance, to go for them — which he kindly did. When they got to the Barracks, they sent him up for me, and I walked down, to escort them to the scene of action. The “little” lady looked very pretty, and M^r Lochner, seemed to admire her considerably; as to M^r Akers, he merely came for a short time, and then went home again. He joined our party again as we were coming away; the subject of conversation was Sunday walking: I said I did not approve^{of} it — altho’ I felt sure that more harm might be done talking than walking; yet I never did [40] like it. “Ah! well” said la belle “Fauchette”,²⁶ “it is a good thing that people differ, as well as opinions: some says

²⁴ “Long live love and success to frivolity (or nonsense)” say I (French). *Bagatelle* is also an outmoded and euphemistic term for “physical love,” which may be intended in this case.

²⁵ Asterisk in original.

²⁶ “Fauchette” is a cutting tool for trimming hedges. Literal translation of “la belle fauchette” in this case could be “the pretty saw.”

Onions, some says Ingans”! There was a shade over M^r Akers face immediately, and I’m sure [he] felt sorry for her vulgarity.

I could not refrain from saying to her today, when he joined us, “I see ma mie,²⁷ that you & I have the same ideas on some points = for it has been a wish of mine for many days to have some Acres (Akers) of my own”. Altho’ she laughed at it, she said “Don’t say that to anyone else, will you”? – I promised; and you, my journal are the sole confidant.

D^r Hadley passed the evening with me, and a pleasant one it was, too; our two friends sat at their wine until 25 minutes past 10 o’clock! I like to be particular, for 5 minutes makes a great difference sometimes! [41] Miss Buckland came in just before dinner to say she was not well enough to remain; poor thing, she has such a bad cold & cough. 14th Friday. It is just 12 o’clock, and I’ve had visitors ever since 9 – M^{rs} Roberts and M^{rs} Bedford & M^r Dry have been chatting away in style.

William received a letter this morning, of a most abusive character, from the woman living in the Crescent; he showed it to M^r Dry – and M^{rs} Bedford being here at the time asked if it was from her? When she heard it was, her eyes flashed! what a fury she tried to suppress! Oh! I would not have been the woman, and near her, for a trifle.

It serves W. C. rightly – as so I told him; he has listened to her stories relative to other persons, and now he feels the weight of her tongue himself.

I had such a dear little note this morning; I sat in my dressing gown, laughing immoderately at the compliments it contained. I really do wonder, if the writer at heart, believes what he says.

[42]15th Saturday. Yesterday I had a long letter from dearest Marion; she and her spouse got to Port Phillip in October; and she anticipates an addition to her family the following month. I wish the event would take place on my birthday. She tells me of the death of their friend M^r Dymock; he was found dead in his bed room. I’m sure both Marion and Mordaunt will mourn for him long and sincerely.

M^r Roberts, D^r Hadley, and William – oh! & M^r Lochnar went for a ride with me yesterday as far as O’Brien’s bridge; the day which in the morning was threatening, turned out very pleasant. Both gentlemen dined out; Miss Buckland came in at a little before 9 o’clock, and kindly dressed my hair. [43] We drove to the Mess room for William, who was taking a cigar with D^r Hadley, in his room.

²⁷ This is an accurate transcription; a plausible translation would be “my friend.”

We found a large number of persons collected at M^{rs} Agnew's; and it is wonderful how many crowd into a small room, if only "with a will". M^{rs} Booth was the handsomest woman there, to my taste; I do'nt think Miss Rose Kemp actually pretty, but she looked very nicely indeed. As to myself, I rather imagine I was not in full force; I felt all abroad, but danced away in earnest – and who would not, with so nice a partner as M^r Lochnar? M^r Clarke and I had a long chat; he is really a kind-hearted person, and gentlemanly into the bargain. D^r Hadley, poor soul! was suffering from head ache in the first part of the evening, but recovered after. [44] I take great delight in his society, and shall indeed feel a blank at leaving him; after all, what is the whole world compared to one kind, sympathizing heart?

M^r Montgomerie goes to Sydney in the Montauk and sails today: it will, I'm sure, do him good. He is a sterling, good little creature – and I do love him.

William received another delightful epistle from his "fair friend"; it is the fashion, it appears, for gentlemen to have these sort of correspondents.

Soon after breakfast, D^r Hadley called; then M^r Montgomerie, to say Adieu; William went with the latter on board the Montauk, and has not yet come back. M^{rs} Curl paid me a visit, and whilst she was here, D^r & M^{rs} Dawson came in. They sat some time, and M^r & M^{rs} Drake called as they were leaving. [45] D^r Dawson does look so ill, I'm quite grieved to see his kind, bright, eye so dull; it was not a false compliment I paid him, when I said I would rather be ill myself, than see him so. It does not seem natural that he should suffer.

M^{rs} Bedford and M^r Lochnar joined our ride today; we went to the Ferry. It was such a lovely day: and we could see the Montauk sailing out of the Derwent, with a steady wind.

Misses Gray and M. Burnett came in just as I was going to change my dress, so they came up into my room; and as Marianne was tying my hair, Ann came to say M^r Lochnar was here, so I asked them to go and entertain him. Down went Miss Gray, and presently returned saying, "Now, I've done it"! [46] It appears that, she [went] into the room expecting to see M^r Lochnar; she bounded in, saying "So, actually, you're here"! when lo; Mess^{rs} Clarke and Dry were there. We all went down soon after, and then these gentlemen told me that William had gone with M^r Roberts to Sydney, by the Montauk; this, of course I knew to be only a joke – but was there any fun in going up to M^{rs} Roberts' and telling her to come down and stay with me?

I wrote a note to her to tell her not to do so; she is no favorite of mine, and besides which I like to choose my own associates.

M^r Dry dined with me, and altho' engaged to go and play billiards with M^r Turpie, he did not move until 10 o'clock; how different tho', the motive now, and six months ago, which had prompted him to remain!

I feel quite good in having answered Marion's letter by the Montauk! I wrote too, a long letter to M^r Learmonth.

[47] 17th Monday. Bessie has been dead twelve months, today; I was at the Davies' when recalled here, in consequence of her death: – and tomorrow, (that day 12 months) is the day I came over. Strange to say, that I think it more than likely that tomorrow I shall go over to Longford, for I hear that dear little Annie is dead; I know so well, how very much afflicted they will all be, and I know they will like to see me.

Yesterday I did not go to church, as I was not in a fit state to do so; nobody should go with a cough.

After church I had visitors the whole day; M^r Clarke took D^r Hadley away with him to make some calls, and they returned & sat some little time. They dined here; M^r Dry, M^r Roberts & William, made up our number. [48] The two latter gentlemen came in just before dinner; looking very unshaved & dingy! Of course they had had numberless difficulties, almost dangers, to contend with – and actually 9 miles to walk! They don't advise the country down there, or the primitive mode of living adopted by M^r Lawrence and family.

It was evident by what William said, that he expected M^{rs} Roberts to be here; but it was better that she was not, for several reasons – amongst others, John was quite "fou"²⁸ again, & did not give us dinner until nearly 8 o'clock.

M^{rs} E. Bedford sat some time here today; & Miss Buckland.

19th Wednesday. On Monday I had a delightful ride on the Beach with D^r Hadley.

William & I dined alone yesterday. In the afternoon, he & M^{rs} Roberts came for a ride to Ridsen Ferry; it was a lovely day.

[49] I received a letter from M^r Davies, announcing dear little Annie's death; he writes in the resigned way I should have expected – but I know how grievously both he & poor Maria will feel the blow! And M^{rs} Lyttleton too; kind soul that she is; nursing them all –

²⁸ Mad (French).

and feeling as she must, so truly wretched! – I answered his note, and said I should be over on Friday morning at Perth; I will stay with them for a week.

Last night William & M^r Dry dined at Mess; & the former of these gentry is just returned home it being 9 o'clock – so much for the Faith of Man!! –

Miss Buckland dined with me, and I was so overpowered by sleep, that I could not rouse myself, and she left at ½ past 9 o'clock.

[50] M^{rs} Curl pays me a visit every day, as she says it comes naturally. Today she & her spouse dine with us, as they are removing into another house, & cannot find time to have dinner cooked at home. She amuses me much, telling me how she passes her evenings. She sits on M^r Curl's knee, whilst he reads; and she then falls asleep – Sometimes she varies her entertainment, and jumps on his back, & makes him carry her about. She is very harmless in her entertainments certainly; so, may they last!

Friday – I've been ill for the past fortnight – and still feel so weak and stupid, that I think my Journal would stand but a poor chance of ever being again written in – only for one thing; this is nothing more or less, than to have [51] the pleasure of saying how grateful I feel to my kind, dear friend D^r Hadley for his unceasing & unremitting care & attention to me during my sickness! He is gentle as a woman; with none of her (too often) trying talkativeness! He is such a delightful companion; so amiable, so amusing! In fact, I should never tire of sounding his praise; and I never shall forget his goodness to me.

D^{rs} Dawson & MacWharrie were very kind too; and altogether, they have made me *passablement bien*.²⁹

1 []th [October] Wednesday. It is a long time since I wrote in this book; and until today, I've felt perfectly unable to do so; – indeed now, that the last night's gaiety is past, I begin to feel the same Ennui stealing over me, that I have so long experienced. Oh! there is no earthly Being that I could tell all, [52] every anguish I have suffered lately, both mentally and bodily; indeed so much have I felt – and so keenly, – I think sometimes my mind will become deranged.

Mess^{rs} Baxter & Flower have written to me; the former, as usual, finding fault with me – and saying he will go to England, and sell Yambuck. How I regret all my pets, my garden, my everything – my Home! Oh! it is enough to make one wish for a bath in the River Lethe!

²⁹ Passably well (French).

Nothing very particular has happened since I wrote, excepting that M^r Dry left us during the time I was in bed; but I got up to see him, before he went.

The Governor & Lady Denison are over on the Launceston side of the Island; and M^r Clarke is with them: and the mention of this person's name, reminds me of a strange circumstance which occurred the other day. [53] M^{rs} E. B—d came in to sit with me, & began to talk of M^r C—e; she said she always liked him, and was vexed to find he did not return the sentiment: “but how can he;” said she, “when he is so very fond of you? He has eyes for no one else, when you are in the Room”! It was to me the most extraordinary charge; for I never once even fancied for an instant, that this brotherly creature could have any other liking for me! And I have often noticed to myself his petting little ways towards me – and said “He is quite securely in love with some one, or he would never do this to me”! Vainly did I argue with M^{rs} B—d; she said she could not be mistaken; and ended by giving me the credit of not returning the gentleman's love! “He loves Hadden's sister, Not M^{rs} Baxter”; I said. [53]* No! it must be me; as everybody must love me!! I felt the compliment & bowed.

On Thursday last, we went to a Quadrille party at M^{rs} Booth's; I left just after supper, for I felt so ill, and I knew there was nobody there, that would dance one step less for my leaving; tout au contraire.³⁰

The children have been staying a week with M^{rs} Twiss; and really look very well. Last night we went to a delightful Dance at the Barracks: and altho' far from well, I really passed a pleasant night. The Rooms were beautifully lighted: the Band played delightfully; in fact it was quite as “Madame” said, “Toute a fait charmante”!³¹ All the ladies looked very nicely, excepting Miss R. Kemp – who this time took rather too great a liberty with her face; and overdid the affair! [54] Marianne Burnett made a rush to go to the Party, and succeeded; Her Papa expressly forbid her going; the selfish old man! We actually remained until after 3 o'clock; and it was Sunrise before I got into bed. In the afternoon, I received a great shock. Upon seeing two men wrestling, and fancying the one, an old man, was getting the worst of it, I sent over James to try and stop the fight; & when he returned, he told me that the younger man had just murdered old Sockett! I thereupon fell down; and not having anybody with me who could manage me, I've knocked my head sadly on the floor.

³⁰ All to the contrary (French).

³¹ Quite charming (French).

This morning the Coroner summoned me to attend and give evidence relative to the Murder; but I asked D^r MacWharrie for a medical certificate to prevent my going, which he immediately gave.

[55] Wednesday. I've this morning had a most exquisite brooch given me by D^r Hadley; it is too handsome! And altho' I feel his kindness, I do'nt think I am justified in receiving so much from him. He quite spoils me; & I sometimes feel very much the idea of ever leaving so dear a friend.

On Sunday I wrote to Maria; and today I had a letter from M^r Davies & M^{rs} Lyttleton, saying they would be here tomorrow. I wrote too, to M^r Montgomerie, asking him to make some excuse for not bringing down the beautiful dress D^r Hadley sent for = I could not really accept it; he is too generous! & then here is another gift! I shall quite delight in my having prevented this expense at all events.

I've ridden every day almost; but Zoë is lame today and yesterday, so I am good, & pay visits. [56] Louis went to the firing in the Domain this afternoon with D^r Hadley. I called on M^{rs} Stoner, M^{rs} Maclean, Miss Burnett & M^{rs} J. Burnett. M^{rs} Sharland was in town & M^{rs} Barnes; I saw the former, but not the latter. M^{rs} Roberts is still very weakly; and her Sposso not over amiable. Her sister, M^{rs} Harrison, is staying with her. M^{rs} Booth was here today, & D^r Dawson sat some time with me. I am working a pin cushion for a friend; & there is some other work too, which I long to begin for the same person. And it is late; I've been alone all the evening, busy reading "Sybil". D^r MacWharrie called, but John said I was not in, so he went home.

29th Monday. On Saturday I was quite ill; and obliged to take a considerable quantity of Opium, and apply leeches to my stomach twice: D^r Dawson, who came to see me, says that I must apply them about every three weeks, whether in pain or not. [57] I never scarcely remember to have passed so very truly lonely a day of pain as this; I do'nt much mind aches; but I was left alone = even my usually kind friend D^r Hadley did not stay an hour & ½ the whole day with me. He asked me why I had not sent for him in the morning, when I was so ill? But I rejoiced afterwards to think I had not; as he could not make up his mind to stay any time when he did know I was so ill.

D^r Dawson sat for a long time with me today; I do certainly like him very much.

M^r Wheeler breakfasted with William this morning, [58] and I went to see him just before he left; Captain Pratt then came in: and before long D^r Hadley. The latter went at ½ past 12; to call on M^{rs} Dawson = and came here at 2, to go with me to see M^{rs} Davies.

We found M^{rs} Lyttleton in the Drawing room at Boa Vista, and she brought in Maria soon after; they both look far better than I had expected. Emma is looking very well. We returned home at ½ past 3 – and then D^r Hadley left; he gave me such a pretty bouquet from Dickenson's.

I went in to see M^{rs} E. Bedford, & sat there some time: Miss Scott came in; and as I was leaving, M^{rs} E. Butler. Mess^{rs} Clark & Chester Wilmott were riding, as I came in; & I stood to speak to them. M^r Lochnar called. The children passed yesterday at M^{rs} Roberts' and today at Miss Sorell's. [59] Miss Buckland came in for a short time; and Miss Burnett dined here. John was quite unfit to attend to anything; & we had to have Ann in to wait. I must say tho' that she was very little better; and very dosey.

The "Swift", Man-of-War, is in harbour; she has on board Smith O'Brien, & two other rebels from Ireland.

At some future day I must remark a few little incidents which took place at M^{rs} Harold's Soirée in Launceston last week; I am too tired to write now.

31st Wednesday. Yesterday D^r Hadley kindly lent me Bessie to ride, as Zoë is still lame; and he accompanied Louis and I for a ride. We went to enquire after Maria; and then followed the road to the Museum. [60] Louis called to see M^{rs} Twiss, and came after us, but missed us; so by the time we returned, he had gone into Town.

There was a large party at the Mess to dinner, and M^r Curll was one of the number. M^{rs} Curll was very anxious to see "dear Henry" at Mess; so I wrote to ask Captain Pratt to take us up to see all the gentlemen at table. In due course of time he came; and we walked with him to where the Band was playing; and it was worth something to see the faces of the performers, when they saw us come into their room. I walked in first, and pulled aside a red curtain – where a very pretty scene met my eyes. The Naval Officers of the "Swift" were dining with the 99th, and they formed a pleasing relief to the glare of red cloth. [61] After hearing the Overture to Montrose played, and looking at our friends, we went into the Anteroom; we next passed thro' a pantry, and then came to a Staircase where several Mess Waiters stood gazing in perfect wonderment. There was a large screen before the door, so we got behind this, and were then enabled to see "dear Henry"!!

It really was very kind of Captain Pratt to remain for so long a time with us; he even made us stay to hear the Band play three times: and after these, we sallied home by one of the brightest Moons I almost ever saw. I was amused by Hector going with us to the Barracks, as tho' he fancied all was not right by our going there. M^{rs} Curll and I

commenced singing, and we continued until after 11 o'clock; when we got tired, and I took up my position [62] on the Sofa; and she sat in one easy chair, and put her feet on another. Well! we talked of numberless things, until after Midnight; at ½ past 12, a loud ring came at the bell, which I answered; – and in walked Henry; but not the Henry I would have wished to see.

Oh! he looked the remains of a man! his eyes were fixed; and his body gently swerved first to one side, then the other. His little fond wife said in such melancholy accents, “Oh! Hennery! you’ve no cloak on; you’ll have such a sore throat! You’ll be so tired, you shall not get up tomorrow, or go to the Office”. At the same time, she tied her boa round his neck – which compliment he never felt, until his feelings were touched in another way – viz: a strong sense of coming suffocation! [63] He then murmured [sic] out “What a fool you do make of me!” They soon left, and off I went to bed – but I did not sleep; and my waking dreams were anything but of the most agreeable kind.

Today we had M^r & M^{rs} Stonor; Miss Buckland, D^r Richardson, Mess^{rs} Johnston and Despard to dinner; ’tis the first time that the latter person has ever been here = and I cannot say I am much prejudiced in his favor. He has been tho’ to New England, Port Macquarie & Macleay = and consequently knows so many persons that I do, that it wins him some notice from me. After dinner Misses Burnett & Sorell; M^r & M^{rs} Curll; Mess^{rs} Tillet, Lochnar, Sorell, Gaynor; D^{rs} Hadley & Macquarie came = and the most of them set to work in earnest dancing. [64] they kept it up in a very spirited manner, and seemed very happy, until between 1 and 2 o’clock.

I was so ill, that I took a pile of ½ a gram of opium; then 20 drops of Battey’s laudanum. I had the feeling of wishing to lay my head on some shoulder I loved, and listen to kind words! Now as this is decidedly not the mood to be in society with, I was not happy until after all the host had left. William took the Misses Burnett home, walked nearly an hour with them by moonlight = then went to D^r M^cWharrie’s,³² and did not come home until after 5 –

In the afternoon I rode Bessie and we had such a nice ride thro’ the Domain to the Ridsen Road; thro’ M^r Bicheno’s land – and to Cooley’s; when we got there, we found M^r Lochnar; [65] (the gentleman that some say is quite spoiled in his manners, by associating with the Kemp family!) and as both of my friends found themselves particularly thirsty, we adjourned to the Inn, and they had some Ginger beer & ale

³² Variant spelling of MacWharrie.

mixed! And actually they fancied it good! Après cela,³³ we went on the Race Course; and the gentlemen had a most amusing race. On our way home, M^r Fleming rode with us, and he told us a queer story of a “Snatcher”: this is a hook attached to an alarm clock, & any person very lazy, can attach his bed clothes to it, and at the appointed time for rising, off go the clothes.

2nd [November] Friday. Yesterday I drove M^{rs} Curll & the children to the Government Gardens, where the Band played; I sent back the carriage, and William brought the Misses Sorell to hear it. There were a great many persons there, and the gardens look so prettily. [66] We sat until all the music was finished, when D^r Hadley offered his arm to M^{rs} Curll & myself, and we went to the upper walk. I stooped to pick a piece of mignonette, when off went my two companions, in the most brusque & unkind way; I did not remain for them, but walked towards the gate. – D^r Hadley, when they returned, came up to my side, but I quickly took the opposite place – I hate Bears! – Away he rode without I suppose ever imagining he had done anything rude or ungentlemanly; and when we met him in the street, he bowed so politely to my fair friend, and looked quite happy. He’s a good soul tho’ for all this.

Today I drove out to Boa Vista, and sat with M^{rs} Lyttleton and Maria for some time. [67] When I say “I drove”; it is incorrect; M^r Dry, who had just arrived, did so for me; and after opening the gate, walked home! He is looking very brown, but well; and is come to stay with William.

M^{rs} Lyttleton is coming to stay with me for a day or two, and bring Emma; she comes on Monday. William has taken a violent liking for the Misses Sorell, and is constantly there. He is a strange fickle creature.

John met me this morning at Webb’s, and drove the children home to their dinner, as I had to pay some visits; so after having an Ice, I went to M^{rs} Richardson’s, whom I found too ill to see anybody; and then to M^{rs} Agnew’s. Whilst I was ringing the bell, I espied W. C. Mess^{rs} Clarke & Chester Wilmot standing at the corner [68] of the street – and they appeared to be debating which way they should go. They bowed – and soon after, William came over to M^{rs} Agnew’s where we had a great laugh at her, and her baby =jumper.

We went for a ride in the afternoon; and I’m quite tired tonight. M^r Sharland dined with us = and the three gentlemen sat in the dining room until ½ past 9 – and past 10! So

³³ After that (French).

much for civilization!! I did not mind, indeed I rather was glad, as D^r Hadley was with me, & I like his company so much. He has had his portrait daguerreotyped = & I think the one very good.

M^r Dry, he & I, were sitting talking, when a loud rap came at the drawing room door; I thought it was M^r Clarke, and jumped up directly: but upon finding the street door open, I said “Come in”, and thereby missed the opportunity of seeing the [69] person who was there. I suppose it is the same low wretch who comes constantly. How indignant M^r Dry becomes when talking on politics! I was quite entertained to find him so enthusiastic.

3rd Saturday – I accompanied M^r Dry to see M^{rs} Dawson, and we sat there some time. I gave D^r Dawson the Paper Cutter; and he said he should prize it, the dear Man! Whilst we were there, D^r Hadley rode up; and left when we did.

Miss Buckland came in to luncheon; and she brought me a likeness of M^r Wigmore, taken by M^r Brown, and a most correct one.

I called to see M^{rs} E. Bedford this morning, and had a nice chat with her. M^r Dry brought over M^r Lloyd’s dog “Don”; and this morning Hector fastened on his throat, & the three men had difficulty in getting him off; so I sent him in with M^r Dry’s compliments, to M^{rs} Bedford.

[70] I went for a ride with D^r Hadley; but we had to come home quickly, as it rained heavily; we went up the “Stony Steps” track, and then finding that too rough, we went another path, and which we had to pay 2^d for; the one was scarcely better than the other. This is a great drawback to Hobart Town; as it is almost ^{impossible} to see the various beautiful views, the great attractions in this country, without rendering it a matter of doubt every moment, whether your horse will not put it’s [sic] foot unhappily on some loose stone, and come down. Persons will say “why not walk to see these views”? and certainly I should say it was the better way; but unfortunately, my legs, altho’ very thick – are not strong enough to carry me. [71] Soon after we got home, William arrived in a very drenched state; nevertheless, he entered into the fun of seeing two miserably intoxicated persons rolling about in the street, and finally falling down.

D^r Hadley remained to dinner, and he was the only one of the three who left the table before 10 o’clock. M^r Dry and William then went out to the Theatre or some place of entertainment, and did not return until 12; when W. C. went out to pass a few hours with a friend over the garden palings! It really disgusts one, to see gentlemen entering into intimacies of this kind, for nearly merely the purpose of gossiping and scandalizing

persons of a higher & better class, as is the case in the present instance. [72] It reminds me of a story told of Major Turner, who was a great admirer of the fair Sex, but who was quite above any gossiping propensities. One day he met a pretty woman, and made an assignation with her for that evening; She commenced talking to him very civilly, when he turned round to her and said “Hold your tongue; I did not bring you here to talk”!

M^{rs} Stonor called just before we went out riding; she is a pretty little woman, with such lovely eyes.

4th Sunday. I wrote to Harriet and Woodward this morning; thinking to go to Church in the afternoon = but my good resolves were frustrated, as the Carriage could not be got ready.

D^r Hadley & the Misses Burnett had luncheon here; no! the former left before that meal, and came back for me at ½ past 2, to go and see M^{rs} E. Bedford = we sat with her for some time; M^r Fleming was there too; and William came in. Soon after I got home, William drove the children to Captain Twiss’, and M^r Chester Wilmott accompanied him. [73] M^r Clarke remained here whilst they were away, and we had a long chat until 6 o’clock = when the two gentlemen went away to dress for dinner; – and returned at ½ past. M^r Dry dined with M^r Barrow; and returned tonight. D^r Hadley came in during the evening. Captⁿ Griffiths is returned from India, as Captⁿ Pratt emphatically says “without a bit of anything on him”! – The Vessel came in this morning from Madras & Calcutta.

5th Monday. We were up pretty early, and had some of our lessons said before breakfast. At 11, Miss Burnett came to read Macauley; and D^r Hadley paid me a short visit soon after; [74] I never remember being so glad to see him before! but really he is so amiable; so very peculiarly kind & affectionate to me, that I should be ungrateful if I did not indeed show some fondness for him.

In the afternoon I drove M^{rs} Curll and the children to Boa Vista, for the purpose of bringing in M^{rs} Lyttleton, and the child. When we got there, we found the bird flown! I however, quietly walked off with Emma and the trunk! and drove out a second time for the dear lady, after depositing the two “small fry”. The Bishop & M^{rs} Nixon were both at home, and received me kindly; his lordship especially; and gave me his arm to the Carriage.

M^r Dry dined at home; and Miss Buckland came in after dinner = so we passed a very pleasant evening; altho’ I could have had a pleasanter.

[75] M^{rs} E. Bedford sat some time here this morning; she is in miserable spirits about poor M^r Lloyd, and no wonder! She said to me, “Oh! you can understand my feelings, I know; only think what would you suffer were M^r D— to die’! Poor thing! I can but sympathize with her. She has lent me “Brougham’s lives of Statesmen”; and I’m going to commence it.

M^r Meagher is returned from Campbell Town having committed some faux pas³⁴ with regard to a Waiter’s wife – en attendant³⁵ something better I presume!

We dine at D^r Dawson’s on Thursday; I like to go there, they are such nice persons.

6th Tuesday – It has poured the whole day, so we had no reading, excepting M^{rs} Lyttleton’s beginning the life of M^{rs} Godolphin. [76] William dined at Mess; M^r Dry at M^r Hollings’; D^r Hadley paid us a visit in the afternoon. M^{rs} Curll sent me such a handsome purse this evening, as a birthday present; it is very kind of her.

W. C. dreamt last night that Fanny Gray was dead; and two or three persons had such extraordinary dreams on the same night. I returned D^r Agnew’s book =

8th Thursday – We have just returned from D^r Dawson’s, where we had a very agreeable dinner party; notwithstanding my being in considerable uneasiness after the very severe pain I have suffered all this day. Oh! it is truly agony! and I think often, it would give me ease, if alone, to scream. I wonder how much longer I shall suffer in this way? Yet it is wicked [77] of me to murmur, – for how many thousands are in agony, and have no friends to condole with them; no dear kind hand to nurse them! But I suffer mentally too – how much nobody will ever know; no! ’tis between myself and a most forgiving God. M^{rs} Lyttleton left this afternoon for Boa Vista; she walked into town with Miss Buckland this morning to shop, and returned in time for luncheon. Miss Burnett sat here from 11 to 12; M^{rs} Curll likewise = Captⁿ Pratt & D^r Hadley came in whilst M^{rs} Curll was here. Poor Richard Dry walked in and out so often today, each time asking how I was: I think he takes some interest in me yet – altho’ I did tell him such strange things.

[78] William drove M^{rs} Lyttleton home; and Louis rode by the Carriage; he and his Papa afterwards went for a ride, and I drove down to take a hot bath at the Hospital; when I returned, I laid down on my bed for a short time, when D^r Hadley came & sat by me reading aloud; but he finished by reading another story – to himself. I finished his pin-cushion today, and sent it.

D^r Dawson paid me a visit today. M^{rs} E. Bedford came in, but I could not see her.

³⁴ Literally “false step” but colloquially a blunder usually social in nature (French).

³⁵ Waiting for/on (French).

There was a M^r Beckford at D^r Dawson's this evening; he is a lieutenant on board the "Swift", and has the most glorious red face I ever saw! it makes one feel inclined to damp it, to put him out!

The Misses Walker sang together, and altho' not sweetly, still in tune. M^{rs} Frazer sang too; she is very nervous, but has been well taught: I think too, [79] that she would sing better if M^r Frazer were not there. M^{rs} Dawson looked as Jolly as ever; and was devotedly attended by D^r Hadley. Miss Scott did not sing very well tonight = she was very flat. M^{rs} Brock played, oh! so brilliantly! it is very delightful to see how exhausted she becomes after playing for some time; she throws herself back on the sofa, and pants! I feel convinced that she and her "sposo" are not amiably disposed towards one another; they give one another regular "looks of defiance", enough to say "there now, take that"! I was in great pain during the evening, and changed color so often, that the good people noticed it. Sometimes I am wicked enough to think that life is too long for me; and this terrible pain too severe! [80] But when I reason with myself, I know that I deserve all & every sort of punishment from my wise & justly-provoked Creator. – Yes! I do indeed merit pain, misery, grief! and if it be ordained for me to pass thro' this weary world so afflicted – I must e'en bow to it.

9th Friday. After the children had done their lessons, Miss Burnett read Macauley for some time; Marianne came in, and would not be quiet, until I gave her some work. Next came D^r Hadley: but did not remain long. At ½ past 2, M^{rs} Bedford came to go for her ride with us; D^r Dawson sat some time with me; and D^r Hadley took him down to Brown's to have Ty's portrait taken; he was upwards of an hour gone, and there we sat. We agreed to give him 10 minutes more, and then take off our habits = but he came in time just to save the execution of the decree. [81] We rode to O'Brien's bridge, and found it very cold indeed. William rode with M^{rs} Dawson's party; all the young ladies were there, and Mess^{rs} Gaynor, Lochnar, W. C. and D^r Dawson. Tomorrow I'm going to pay visits, & have asked Miss Buckland to go with me.

The Archdeacon was so ill last night, that M^r E. Bedford was sent for to see him; he is better tho' this afternoon. We were saying that it did not answer to marry late in life; and M^{rs} Bedford instanced Archdeacon Hutchins, who married when nearly 50, and fell down dead by his bedside = "Oh! I suppose", said our quiet friend, "he died from over-exertion"! This remark, and the tone it was said in, quite upset my gravity, and I laughed outright & heartily.

[82] I've been mending silk socks, and stitching collars today. Dear William says he must, he is afraid, go to Norfolk Island; in such case, I shall take a small cottage somewhere near: yet I hope he will not be obliged to go.

William went to M^{rs} Smith's this evening; & M^r Dry dined with M^r Hollings; I have not seen him today at all. I was delighted at D^r Hadley kindly coming & sitting with me; as he gave up his dance for it! He is such a queer mortal; I do like him excessively. I hope M^r Macgregor will bring over March for him. After he left, I opened the drawing room door, and heard such an exquisite bass voice, singing a good second to an indifferent first; so I listened, and found the sounds proceeded from our kitchen; and that Francis was the singer. Dear me! what would not some persons give for such a voice; and here it is thrown away on a Groom!

[83] 10th Saturday. As there was to be a Pidgeon match today at Cooley's, I wrote to M^r Clarke to take a ride with me; he sent me a nice little note in answer, and was here to the second, at 3 o'clock.

Soon after breakfast M^{rs} Curll & Miss Burnett came in; and M^r Dry joined the party. He volunteered to "treat" us all to ices at Webb's, and the Ladies took his offer at once = but only with the proviso that I should go too. A cab was called; of a very limited size, and into it we got, and drove to town. M^{rs} Stonor came in for her Ice too; and M^r J. Burnett sat with us for some little time. We returned before 1, but as I set down Miss Burnett and M^{rs} Curll, at their respective domiciles, I was only just in time for the Children' dinner. D^r Hadley was standing at the Barrack gate when we passed, and I found that he had been here. He called [84] again before going to the Match. M^r Dry won the gun they were shooting for; what I could see of it, appeared but poor firing. M^r Bicheno was on horseback, and came thro' the lane with us.

We cantered to the Race Course, intending to have a ride on it, but not being able to get the gate opened, M^r Clarke took down the upper rail, and jumped the fence; D^r Hadley followed, and I, like a silly woman went after them. The Mare took a splendid leap when she did go, but after coming on the Course she swerved a little, and away I went – very gently, on to the ground! – So often as I have taken dear Jamie over higher & wider fences; and then to come off in this desperately ridiculous way!

I'm not much hurt; only my knee gave way, and I attribute my upset in some measure to it's weakness. (How apt we are to find an excuse in any weakness but our own!)

[85] William dined on board the “Swift”; M^r Dry dined out; and the children sat with me until 8 o’clock, after which time I had a little snooze; and the rest of the evening passed very happily with D^r Hadley.

Marianne and M^{rs} J. Burnett called as we came in from riding; they brought me Margaret Percival, a book I have long wished to read.

M^r Montgomerie will be back directly; I quite long to know how he will execute my request & commission.

And now I must write to Horace Flower.

12th Thursday – I wrote such a long letter to M^r Wilson; and really it was due to him: and I posted it myself this morning.

Yesterday M^r Dry took Louis to M^r Gregson’s, and returned about 9 o’clock.

Mess^{rs} Onslow & Clarke – Miss Burnett & D^r Hadley dined with us. The latter, poor soul! was all day suffering from such a severe head-ache; and today he has neither been or sent to me.

[86] After morning church, the Misses Burnett, and M^r & M^{rs} Curll called; so D^r Hadley and I walked up as far as M^{rs} E. Butler’s with the two last. We found this lady from home, but we looked at the garden, which is in great beauty at present. We next went to M^{rs} E. Bedford’s, and I sat with her, whilst the two Doctors paraded the Verandah. I then walked up to Captain Pratt’s, and he made me inspect his kitchen garden, as he felt convinced that I “was a good judge” of such things! John brought the carriage for me, and took me down to Church. M^r Clarke very kindly came for me.

M^r Onslow is an Officer on board the “Swift”; & having drank too much wine, was deposited in W. C.’s bed for the night; so I quietly locked my door, as I thought perhaps he might wake in the night, and ramble over the house.

[87] Miss Burnett amused M^r Dry & myself very much last night; She at ½ past 10 began to think she should go home; and as William was still in the Dining room, she said to M^r Dry, who was really very tired, “Oh! I wish you would take me home”! The kind creature said “Yes” = but this was not all. She was so frightened, lest any of the gentlemen in the other room should come out, and meet her on the stairs = so she said rather quickly – “Oh! I want M^r Dry” – “Yes! here I am”; said he, at the same time getting up from the sofa, his foot slipped, and he nearly went on his knees, at her feet! “Oh!” — was all she could say, but she gave such a jump! – Poor D^r Hadley went home before any of the other folks, his head was so bad.

[88] M^r Gaynor came in during the evening; & M^r Chester Wilmott on his way home from M^r J. Dunn's. I retired to my room soon after Miss Burnett left, & the gentlemen into M^r Dry's room.

This morning I took M^{rs} Curll into town at 10 – and the gentlemen were just assembling to their breakfast. We, after shopping, went up to see M^{rs} Roberts, and sat there some time. She is looking very ill indeed. This afternoon William took Louis to the Domain, where he went himself to play cricket; he did not return until 7 o'clock. I remained at home, as D^r Hadley was too ill to come, & I would not ask M^r Clarke, to take me out again. Miss Buckland called & sat a little while; she looked very [89] hot, as everybody did today. There has been such a hot wind all day; it really was quite painful to be out in it. D^r & M^{rs} Richardson sat some time with me. M^r & M^{rs} Drake too; and the Misses Burnett. Really by night, I am tired; and after writing in you, my little companion, I feel ready for bed.

I was guilty of buying 3 more packets of floss silk today. I bought M^{rs} Curll as Birthday present, a bottle of Bavarian glass, for her toilette.

I've commenced "Margaret Percival", and like it much. – Heaven bless those whom I love! They are few tho'.

14th Wednesday. Yesterday I sat the whole morning at work, and commenced the very pretty bouquet for a cushion; the children [90] were with me; and I told them they might talk to each other, but not to me. I was occasionally so entertained, that I burst out laughing; they did say such comical things!

At luncheon, M^r Montgomerie came; & I was so glad to see him again, altho' he looks very ill indeed. Poor fellow! he says he shall never get better; = & I fear, not. He sat some time with me; and whilst here, a box came with D^r Hadley's compliments – I knew it was the dress, immediately; and I asked M^r Montgomerie why he had not granted my request to him, not to get it? He had never received my note. D^r Hadley is too kind & generous; I really do not wish for such handsome presents! I have no business to receive them! Yet it is really of little use my saying so, he only gives me the more! [91] He has been so ill the last two days, and [I] missed him so much, that I told Harefield of a little plan of mine for last night; & which he appeared to approve of! But how vain are our best resolves! When in a note to le Maître, I hinted at what I had done, he distinctly said "No", to it = and frustrated my designs, by coming in the evening to sit with me for an hour.

William dined at Mess; M^r Dry out; and D^r Hadley remained here until ½ past 8 o'clock. I was happy to see him here once more; he is always so amiable, gentle, & kind to me. I never met any person yet, who studied me as much as he does; and indeed I am very fond of him in consequence. This may be very wrong; I cannot help, or unsay, or unthink it!

[92] At ½ past 9, I got Francis to drive me to M^{rs} Curl's; Several persons were there before me, and they continued to arrive until 10. – Most of the gentlemen came from Mess; and I must say, pleasantly squiff! M^r Clarke commenced upon me; and M^{rs} E. Bedford would have had some reason to conclude what she so insisted on was the case. I could keep him in order tho', altho' he did try a few small tricks.

I played Quadrilles & Polka; and the Band then came to relieve me. Dancing was kept up with spirit, altho' the ladies were scarce. (Very!!) My partners were Mess^{rs} Stonor, Clarke, & Johnston. I then went into the card room, and had a chat with M^r Chester Wilmott; [93] After I left, there is a story told, that he asked Miss Windsor in the following terms, if he should assist her to anything? "Can I, my dear young lady, assist you to anything?" to which she replied, "No, thank you; I have a gentleman waiting on me, now"! Rather good, if she meant it.

Oh! I've such an admirable caricature of M^r Gaynor! 'tis to the life.

What a little figure of fun, Miss R. Kemp made of herself, putting all her hair back in the way she did.

At 12, M^r Clarke told me he was going; so I requested him to take me too. We said Good Night, and left; taking with us W. C., who protested he would allow nobody else to have the key of the house, besides himself: So after seeing me home, [94] he took an umbrella, and walked back to M^{rs} Curl's. I cannot be glad enough, at having left so early, for after that, all of the gentlemen became quite fou! How very gentlemanly! & civilized! They kept up the dancing until nearly three. W. C. did not return home until today at 3 o'clock; he passed his hours in a most improving & refined manner & place, I believe!

D^r Hadley came at 11 – and I rode to Boa Vista, and M^{rs} Booth's with him. M^{rs} Lyttleton & Maria are coming in on Friday to pass the day with me. The Bishop was there, and made himself very agreeable; he took me into his Study, & showed me all his prints, etc. [95] As to Hector, he never had such a game of romps; he was in and out of the window, in great glee.

I can but regret not knowing the family better; but as it is, I could not bring myself to remain [to] luncheon – altho' so much pressed.

We next went to see M^{rs} Booth, who was in the garden with her work; she looked well, and only had a small "hit" at military Surgeons, which rather amused D^r Hadley. After this we went home, but still no W. C.! and as D^r Hadley was leaving, John requested me to ask him if he thought his Master was safe; as he was in his regimentals! So it really was for the honor of the cloth, that John was anxious! At ½ past 2 o'clock I again mounted my nag, and proceeded to M^{rs} Dawson's; just as we were leaving, in came the delinquent.

[96] M^{rs} Dawson and her family were at home, and we found Mess^{rs} Dry and Hollings there; We sat some time, and then went to call on M^{rs} Smith, (R.N.) for whom we left cards.

A turn in the Domain finished our day's excursion; and I was so tired when I got off my horse!

15th Thursday. I was working all morning in my room, and the Visitors never ceased paying me visits; it was quite amusing, excepting for it's [sic] preventing the reading; still we progressed with Macaulay. At 1, Miss Burnett left; and we had luncheon – D^r Hadley joined us. After this, we made ready for the Band. William drove M^{rs} Curll, Eliza, Annie, Louis and myself to the gardens; and then went for M^{rs} Lyttleton and Maria.

They did not remain very long, as Maria is weak, and her [97] Mother fidgets so terribly about her. We returned when the Band had finished, and Miss Buckland dined here. In the evening D^r Hadley came, and music was the order of the night. I felt very ill; and really in poor spirits, but it is useless to complain so continually.

16th Friday. Altho' feeling very tired, I got up this morning at a little after 5 o'clock; and was thus enabled to do some of my worsted work before breakfast.

As William had to go on the Board, we sent John to Boa Vista for M^{rs} Lyttleton and Maria. They are both looking much better than when they came over. Miss Buckland paid them a visit; & M^r Montgomerie came too, to see me: so I asked him to stay & care for the children at their dinner = and he did so.

[98] D^r Hadley called this morning; and this afternoon at 3 o'clock, thinking I would ride; he left, so did William; and my two old friends at 4 – M^{rs} Nixon came for them. I sent John out with Zoë, as I was not in spirits to ride or do anything pleasant.

M^{rs} Lyttleton told me a report she heard respecting a person and myself! 'Tis very kind of the people taking so deep an interest in my conduct!

The Misses Burnett came in to see me; and left soon. M^r Clarke came with W. C. they both dined at M^r White's; and I've had a delightful evening.

I had such an affectionate letter from my dearest Jessie today; she does write so warmly! and tells me too, of having met M^r Sturt! [99] How much they will like one another; I am so glad they have met.

17th Saturday. This morning I devoted to work, as the children have no lessons on this day. Miss Buckland came in at ½ past 12 = & M^{rs} E. Bedford immediately after, and remained until luncheon; she then went, and D^r Hadley came. William went to play cricket; Louis walked with Joseph to the ground; and we rode out. We had gone to see the play, and cantered to the Anson fence, when such a shower came on; and back we went. I then dismounted, & Miss R. Kemp who had likewise just ridden up, got off too; and we all went into the Marquee pitched for the Cricketers! It did smell so much of tobacco – that, to me, most odious smell! Yet “any Port in a storm”; and we were glad of this.

[100] 22nd Thursday. I am suffering from a very bad cold, and have been ever since Friday last; my voice is gone, and I wish I could say the same of the pain in my chest: but I hope to soon get well.

On Sunday Mess^{rs} Montgomerie & Clarke, D^r Hadley and Miss Buckland dined here; M^r Chester Wilmott came in after M^r J. Dunn's dinner.

Monday we went on board the Swift at 4 o'clock; There were a great many persons there. We got into a boat from the Commissariat Wharf, and walked up an enclosed ladder to the Deck of the Vessel. This latter was perfectly covered in with flags of all Nations = and I should say some were even fanciful in their designs [sic].

Soon after we got on board, the Band of the 98th struck up “the roast beef of old England”; (his Excellency being there to the minute of 4 o'clock –) and in we most of us went to Dinner. [101] D^r Hadley was standing near me when we were about to go, but he never offered his arm, so M^r Impey took me. I sat on Sir William's left hand, M^{rs} Nixon on his right; he was very chatty & pleasant; and took charge of my bouquet for me during dinner.

Soon after the luncheon, dîner, dinner – was over, dancing commenced; and immediately all had finished their refreshment, the tables were cleared away, and we then had both sides of the deck for dancing. I danced with D^r Secombe, M^r Impey, some

Naval Officer, Miss Scott (to prevent our small friend George, the Middy, being disappointed of his Quadrille) and M^r Clarke. D^r Hadley did me the honor of asking me when too late, and after he had asked all his other friends. We left at 10 o'clock; D^r & M^{rs} Dawson & family; (102) M^r & M^{rs} E. Bedford, M^r C. Wilmott, D^r Hadley and myself. M^{rs} Bedford kindly took us in, and D^r Hadley came home with me; as William had given me in charge to him. How different he was on shore, to on board! I never did surely like any man as much as I do him; I miss him; I confide in him; and it will be very sad to me to say Adieu to him. My heart misgives me as to when I get home! I shall never be happy in this world, never!

Tuesday was very boisterous & cold; but I went, nevertheless, for a ride = and meet[sic] a large party riding in the Domain.

Yesterday I felt too ill to go out, as I had applied leeches the previous night, to my stomach. M^r & M^{rs} Impey called, Mons^r et Madame de Chastellier; the Misses Burnett, [103] M^{rs} Curll came to see me, and we arranged about going in the evening to the Theatre.

We dined at ½ past 5, and at 7 started for le spectacle. William gave three tickets away, to Miss Buckland, and the Misses A. & A. Sorell; so the Cab went first to M^r Curll's – then W. C. and M^r Curll took Miss Buckland down in the carriage = whilst I called for my two Catholic friends. It was so good to see the crush at the door; I thought that some of the females would have had their heads taken off! – for I like Lot's wife, they insisted on looking behind them. We got in thro' the back door, and established ourselves in the left-hand Stage box.

M^r & M^{rs} Curll were determined to have a good view – and both got in front as much as possible. M^r & M^{rs} Drake, M^r & M^{rs} Agnew, M^r Clarke, [104] and D^r Hadley soon came in; the latter soon went off again too, to the Military Box up stairs. After the first Piece, I, too, went up stairs, and was glad I did, as I could see so much better.

M^r Dry arrived this afternoon; and after changing his dress, went to dine with M^r & M^{rs} Impey; he is quite taken up with them, now. He was at the Theatre, in a box opposite, in which were M^{rs} Barrow, Miss R. Kemp, Miss Seccombe: Mess^{rs} Johnston, Lochnar, Barrow, and Langenore. The performance was admirable; the dresses very good; the Band sounded to great advantage – and altogether, it was a most agreeable evening. We were packed 5 in the Cab coming home, & W. C. & "Henry" went in another one.

This morning after lessons, I went into the drawing room, and Mess^{rs} Dry & Hollings were just going out of the gate, so I had a chat with them. [105] D^r Hadley &

M^r Montgomerie paid me a short visit; D^r Macquarie came whilst we were at luncheon, and remained until I was going for my ride. M^{rs} Brock called. M^{rs} Dawson, Miss Walker, & Miss Scott were going to pay visits, & William asked them if they would like to hear the Band? Having said they would, he drove them there. We rode, accompanied by Mess^{rs} Montgomerie and Lochnar, some way round the Domain, & returned to the Gardens, to hear the Band. I must here mention, altho' it is late – that two persons have today patronized me, for the first time. Captain Twiss, was the one; he came & sat by me some time, [106] and actually made himself pleasant to me! Then as we were leaving the Garden, M^{rs} Dunn, (may her shadow never be less!) actually shook hands with me! and I did not know who she was at the time. There were a good many persons present at the Band; and the flowers look very well. William left some time before us; and we rode home. D^r Macquarie³⁶ & M^r Dry dined with us; D^r & M^{rs} E. Bedford came in after = and we passed quite a merry evening.

I was amused coming home, by D^r Hadley saying in answer to my having remarked his being scarcely any time at the house today, – “Why you are never alone; you’ve always so many with you”! and it was actually himself who brought a friend – and left with him – & never came again until just as we rode. [107] But it is so like Man = to lay all to the fault of poor woman! He is in a strange humour today; and he must get right again, that’s all: I suppose he is ill.

And now, it being 1 o’clock, I’ll close this; I finished “Margaret Percival”.

23rd Friday. Whilst with the children this morning, M^{rs} Curll & Miss Buckland called; the latter is always on some kind errand, and so it was now. She is going to purchase me some wools.

M^{rs} Curll is always lazy; and really keeps others so too. There she sat, poor little woman! grumbling & trying to make me understand that at length, after one twelvemonth’s endeavours, she was “as ladies wish to be who love their lords”. This to me was so entertaining, as it was only last week she told me of a queer mistake she made at M^{rs} Smith’s (R.N.) [108] When she told me of it, I remonstrated with her on her want of delicacy; but she said “Oh! Hannah always does these things for me! Why she often sees me naked”! This was a finale. Whilst she was here, D^r Hadley & Captⁿ Pratt came; the latter commenced congratulating M^{rs} Curll on her recovery from the Maysles! I could not help laughing, altho’ I felt but little inclined for it; – she put on such a face,

³⁶ Variant spelling of MacWharrie..

and said that she believed some impertinent person had said so, but she had[,] had the measles at home, & was not likely to have them here! Captain Pratt left; D^r Hadley read out the news from an English Paper just come in; and M^{rs} Curll began to be restless, & at last, left too.

I was so glad to have 5 minutes with D^r Hadley without interruption; and we had little more, as luncheon was announced, and he went.

[109] He called again at 3 o'clock, and Louis & I accompanied him for a short ride.

Poor Bessie has hurt her fore leg, and I think she should have rested today.

M^r Dry went this morning, to his new abode. He is going to live with M^r Hollings after M^r & M^{rs} Impey leave; and is staying with them until they do so.

D^r Hadley is going to M^{rs} Chapman's tonight; and M^{rs} E. Bedford said she would tell me with whom he flirted!

M^r Clarke sent me such a handsome book this evening, as a Birthday present; It is very kind of him, & so I wrote him.

W. C. dined with M^r & M^{rs} Curll; & came in during the evening, with M^r C.

Wilmott.[110] M^{rs} E. Bedford came in before dinner, and was in such excellent spirits!

Alas! as the day draws near, I think of poor O'Hara! how well do I remember a Pic-Nic he gave me, on my Birthday, at Perth; and his graceful way of paying a compliment.

Poor soul! I wonder if God forgave him his death; & whether he be at present, with our Savior? These questions are puzzling = and better left alone.

Maryanne Burnett sat with me before her dinner; she is in miserable spirits – and not much to be wondered at, when we think of the way in which her Father treats her.

25th Sunday – I have just left the Drawing room, with a merry party, consisting of Mess^{rs} Montgomerie, Noyes, Clarke, & C. Wilmott – and D^r Hadley & William in it; M^r C.

Wilmott came in just now, but the rest of the gentlemen dined here.

[111] I have not been to Church today, as my cough is troublesome: but I went to see M^{rs} Drake in the afternoon, with D^r Hadley and Annie. M^{rs} Drake has promised to drink tea with me on Tuesday next.

Captain Pratt sat with me for a long time this morning, and got me out of the “Blues”, into which I had fallen.

Yesterday ~~be~~ being my 32nd Birthday, I asked some friends to an alfresco dinner; and the day being lovely; the spot chosen for the scene, beautiful; the good people all nearly, in excellent spirits, the day past very pleasantly. The party consisted of Mistresses Dawson, Stonor, E. Bedford, Curll & Baxter; Misses Scott, Burnett, Buckland &

Walker; Mess^{rs} Turpey, Stonor, Fleming, Curll, E. Bedford, Clarke, Noyes, Lochnar, Akers, Dry; [112] Captain Pratt – D^{rs} Dawson, Hadley & MacWharrie. We dined at 3 o'clock; and came into town at a ¼ to 7. I drove M^{rs} Stonor, M^{rs} Curll, and Mary Anne. In the evening M^r & M^{rs} E. Bedford & Miss M. Scott came in; Miss Buckland & D^r Hadley were here already. William was so tired, he went to bed, instead of joining the group.

I never mentioned all the tokens of esteem, friendship & love, that I yesterday received from very kind persons. Firstly then, the beautiful Cameo from D^r Hadley; William gave me a pretty present in the form of a work-stand, composed of the Colonial woods. M^r Montgomerie gave me “the beauties of Sir W. Scott^[b]”; Miss Buckland a flower stand; M^r Curll a scent bottle; and Miss Burnett a Vase. M^{rs} Curll a purse; and Marianne, slippers. [113] A very handsomely bound book, “the Book of the Poets”, was sent to me from an old friend; I certainly thought, and still do think, it was M^r Clarke’s gift; but he says not.

D^r Hadley had quite a tiff today with me; he wrote me yesterday morning to say that the party at M^{rs} Chapman’s was dull, because I was not there! I thought at the time, that if he had fancied it would be so, he knew I was not going, and therefore might have remained; it was evident he preferred the multitude to me! = but I said nothing until M^r Montgomerie & M^{rs} E. Bedford said they had never seen D^r Hadley in such good spirits; dancing, laughing, & flirting, until 3 o'clock. This did appear certainly very like an untruth: at least, paying me a compliment, at the expense of Truth – which is worse. [114] So when I told him in a note that I believed this, or something of the sort – he immediately turned quite vexed! Said at first, that he did mean what he wrote = then that he could not get away – (M^r Hollings left at ½ past 11!) and lastly “what did he go for but to enjoy himself”? Thereby clearly proving that he had merely said he was dull, to try & please me! Instead of which I now shall for ever doubt his word in such cases.

When I am at a dance with him, he looks so grave = so tomorrow night, I shall go to M^r Fleming’s, but come away very early; he can then enjoy himself with his other friends.

M^r Parker paid me a visit today; he is looking very well.

[115] 26th Monday. Such a wet day! I fear M^r Fleming’s party will but be poorly attended this evening. Miss Burnett sat here nearly all the morning; after luncheon, she left. D^r Hadley called for a short time.

27th Tuesday. William & I went in M^r Curll's Cab to M^r Fleming's; it poured with rain! but when we got there, everything looked so snug and warm, that I, for one, soon forgot the out-door disagreeable. There were a good many persons there; and I think the ladies look better there, and at the Mess, than any other house. It must be that the rooms are nicely lighted. My friend D^r Hadley, had engaged me on Board the "Swift", for the first and second Quadrilles this evening; so when I went in, and he soon after came up, I of course imagined he had come "to claim my hand"! [116] Not at all! He had only come to tell me he was going to Dance that Set with M^{rs} E. Bedford, and to engage me for the next. I thought it polite; told him of his engagement to me, but insisted on his keeping the newly-made one, and said I should not dance with him at all. No more I did; so after Supper he left; and so did I, just after the Set of Quadrilles with M^r Isdale. M^r Clarke & I had the longest chat we ever had in Public; and he deigned to see me thro' a Quadrille.

Well! I returned alone, and it rained – very much; so after putting all my various dress away, I got into bed; without writing my journal.

William dined at Mess; and I've been busy writing to M^{rs} Brown, and M^{rs} Cheine.

[117] All the afternoon was passed at my Frame, and my work progresses rapidly. The Rattler came in last night; and W. C. went on board today to see M^{rs} Goldsmith; They have brought me a box from Harriet. I don't know whether I am very curious to see the contents, but I would like to know what they are.

D^r Hadley paid me a short visit after Mess; I'm always so glad to see him, because he is to see me, I suppose.

28th Wednesday. This is the anniversary of the day on which poor Captⁿ O'Hara was buried; May we hope that he is now happy: or is the sin he committed unforgiven? I can even now fancy I hear that dreadful shot, which ended his existence! And the muffled drum I can never hear without tears. Ah! if I had only gone instead of him, what misery I might have been spared! And yet I am not right to question God's acts in any way.

[118] The time before breakfast that I have by myself was dedicated to M^r Macgregor, to whom I wrote.

Whilst the children were at their lessons, in came Miss Buckland, & sat an hour; after she left, I finished with them, and then the Misses Burnett came to read. They remained until 1 o'clock, when we had luncheon; I went then into the Drawing room, and sat working & reading until 2; thinking that D^r Hadley must be ill, I ordered our horses for ½ past 2, and was going to get ready, when in he walked. He told me that M^{rs} Barnes, and M^{rs} Sharland would be up directly to see me, so I remained below. [119] M^r Noyes

came to say “adieu”, & then William came in; but soon went up to M^{rs} Dawson’s. As my Visitors were punctual, I was not prevented from riding, altho’ I had made up my mind to go alone with Louis, to the beach. D^r Hadley had promised to go to M^{rs} Dawson’s for them to ride, at 3 o’clock; and he said he would not go, unless I did. The result was, I went to ride; exerted myself too much; and now my back is in sad pain. M^r Clarke came in with us, and sat until 6; M^r Akers too; they then left; and Miss Buckland came in whilst We were at dinner – D^r Hadley came in the evening.

Oh! I feel so poorly tonight; & I do’nt like to complain always, even to my kind friend.

[120] 29th Thursday. We rode to the Band, as I was not to take Annie there again, her Papa said; and after being there a short time, in he walked with her! M^r & M^{rs} Marriott were there; they both look very ill. I had a shake of the hands from the Bishop, at Webb’s; where he caught me testing coffee liquer.

In the evening I took my work, and went into M^{rs} Bedford’s, where I remained until nearly 11. When I returned, William was sitting in the drawing room, and said the reason why he did not go, was, that the servants were all tipsy. As to Ann, she was lying on her bed, on sundry frocks, bonnets, pinnafores, etc – and with Louis’ glass beside her, containing some drink of some kind; which, upon her rising, fell to the ground, and shivered into atoms. How very disgusting, and at the same time, distressing, it is to see a Woman in this state.

[121] 30th Friday. Everybody appeared on the qui vive³⁷ today; at an early hour might be seen groups of gaily-dressed individuals, bending their steps towards the anticipated “scene of action”, the Regatta ground.

M^{rs} E. Bedford, Miss M. Scott, Vizzy, Nelly, Louis & Annie, accompanied me at 9 o’clock to the Flag Staff, to see the boats start. D^r Hadley met us at the Barrack Gate, altho’ it was rather early in the day; and Mess^{rs} Johnston and Montgomerie came up to the look-out, whilst we were there. William drove Captain & M^{rs} Goldsmith to the Domain at ½ past 11 = and the carriage then returned for me; After the children’s dinner, I drove them and M^{rs} Stonor to the Regatta. We went on to the ground quite alone; but I espied D^r Hadley in advance, and sent Louis to him; when he kindly came to our assistance. [122] We stood in the “Grandstand” for about ½ an hour, seeing and being seen; we then went to the Flower show = a very poor affair! the cauliflowers

³⁷ On the alert (French = être sur le qui-vive).

being the best worth seeing there. We met M^r Dry there, who had returned to town yesterday; and as he wished Louis to remain with him to go in the roundabout, I let him do so.

By the time we had seen the show, we had had enough ~~to~~ of the dust and sun for today; so we came home. I then drove M^{rs} Stonor home, and went to see M^{rs} Dawson, whom I met coming down the road with her dear, good husband, just going to walk in M^r Allport's garden. We stood and talked for some time = and then I drove Annie home; where I found Ann alone, but so tipsy! I had to unharness Peter; and locked the stable until James returned = who had only gone out for an hour!!

[123] After this, I sat down to copy music; and had such a nice quiet afternoon of it, with Annie. About ½ past 6, the Bedfords returned, and as they were passing, asked me into dinner, but I could not leave until after the children were in bed; nor even then, when I found John did not return. So I went in, and told them so. D^r Hadley took some cold beef with me, and we were both of us very entertaining. I'm happy always when we are alone; he is so different then, to what he is when others are present. He left early, as he was tired.

Saturday. 1st of December. We drove up in the afternoon to New Norfolk. In the morning I had as usual, a regular levée; First came Miss Buckland, then Mistresses Stonor & Frazer; D^r Hadley; and M^{rs} E. Bedford & Miss M. Scott had luncheon with us just before we started. [124] The Misses Sorell came too, and Kindly took the children with them to remain until we returned. When we started at 2 o'clock, it was a lovely warm day: but by the time we got to Austin's, it came down in torrents of rain; and when we reached Bridgewater, we found our two friends, M^r Montgomerie & D^r Hadley, looking out of the Inn door, as tho' they were lamenting the cruelty of the Fates. William drove into a Shed, and then we went into the house; The two travellers appeared very happy with a bottle of Porter, (of which they kindly asked me to partake:) and some bread & butter – and it was quite amusing to hear each of them, regretting their want of proper clothing for the day! D^r Hadley had started in white trousers; and he said if he got wet what should he do? he had no drawers to change:, as they had not “come from the wash”, when he started! [125] This, in itself was so amusing, for it is ever the cry of a Bachelor's establishment – “Oh! it's not come from the Wash”! but this time it was doubly so, as M^r Montgomerie said in such a funny, little peculiar, way of his own, “It shows what attention he pays to his Kit”! Now if the truth were known,

M^r Montgomerie's clothes come from the wash to a minute, on a particular day = and the idea of their not doing so with anybody else, never entered his head for a second.

The rain continued for some time, but at last it cleared a little, and we two made a start: I borrowed an umbrella, and left my parosol – but I did not gain much by the exchange; for, when the rain & wind commenced in earnest, my new acquaintance turned inside out! much to my entertainment! [126] Poor William got a regular soaking, even to his seat! and I asked him if he were sure it was the rain had caused it?

We reached the “Bush Inn” at ½ past 5; & as dinner was not to be until ½ past 6 o'clock, I dressed, and then sat reading my book by the fire. This is one of the most comfortable Inns, I was ever at; such excellent feeding; & so well attended. Our two friends were here a little after 6, by the Coach; so when they were ready, we all proceeded to our entertainer's house, where M^{rs} Sharland met us at the door, with her key basket in her hand.

M^{rs} Barnes is looking very well; & Willie (christened by M^r Montgomerie “Moustache”) really looks almost well. He is improved in his appearance; & will be good-looking. [127] but here it looks so strange to see a person with a beard, or much hair on the face.

William, D^r Hadley, M^r Montgomerie, and I slept at the Bush Inn; my room was far removed from theirs, and it being a small one, with a feather bed in it, I was very warm! ~ ~ ~ The three gentlemen sat up late smoking; what an odious thing this is! It makes the breath so unpleasant.

2nd Sunday. We all went to Church this morning, and dined with M^r Sharland at 3 o'clock; by that time, not having eaten anything previously, I was very faint. At 4 o'clock we left, and the afternoon having cleared up, we had a most delightful drive home. We found John as we had left him – “the worse for liquor”!

6th Thursday. On Monday we had some friends in the evening, and they seemed to be very merry, [128] and did not leave until ½ past 2 – indeed D^r Hadley did not go until just within a few minutes of 3 o'clock! – thereby paying me almost the same compliment, he did M^{rs} Chapman!

On Tuesday M^r Chester Wilmott was married to Miss Dunn; I doubt whether it will be a happy match = for he said to me that she was old and ugly enough to marry!

M^r & M^{rs} Berrison came in after the breakfast, and William lent them the carriage to go home in; She is so coarse; in voice, manner, and appearance.

This morning I called on M^{rs} Roberts; she is looking very thin & ill. In the afternoon, M^{rs} Priaulx came, and kindly took Annie with her, whilst I was at the Band.

I received my box this afternoon; and there was no news whatever [129] ~~occurs~~ in it: the box contained a bonnet, dress, parasols; a small Polka for Annie = and some small etc's. 9th Sunday. Friday was Baxter's 35th Birthday: I wonder how he passed it? Does he ever think of me, and remember all the misery he has caused me? Unfortunate pair! – M^r Clarke, Miss Buckland, Captⁿ Deering & D^r Hadley dined here today; Miss Buckland sang me some beautiful sacred melodies, whilst the gentlemen were at table. By the way, I must here relate a good story against myself. Captain Deering called the other day; and after leaving the house, said I “must have been pretty when I was young”! Well! my feelings on the occasion were very mild; I've been so accustomed to gross flattery, that instead of making me think more of myself, [130] it has had the effect of making me undervalue any good looks I may possess. But, as I told D^r Hadley, “I'll pay him off, for it”!

11th Tuesday – Yesterday was such a broiling day; but in the afternoon, we had a gallop on the sands, and regularly warmed the horses. We were home by 4 o'clock, and I then worked at my worsted. I am now reading “the Emigrant”, by Sir F. Head. It is quite a political work.

Mess^{rs} Dry & Hollings, and Captⁿ Goldsmith paid me a visit yesterday morning; the former brought me a note from M^{rs} Chiene, who is just moving to Perth – where [she] is going to reside. D^r Landale, who had a stroke of par[], is getting well again.

This morning M^r Tillett called to say Adieu to me, as he sails this afternoon in the Endora, [131] for California; so I gave him my note to M^r Dyson Aplin.

Just as Louis' lessons were finished, M^{rs} Cox paid me a visit of an hour. She told me some very amusing anecdotes of M^{rs} Harvey; and another one, of M^r E. Meredith – who is going to marry Miss Bostock. It appears that he wrote to ask M^r Connolly if he could not have his Intended's £1000!! He positively has no place to take her to, and wants to borrow her trifling sum of money! Such is Matrimony in this Colony, oftentimes.

Wednesday. I'm very miserable tonight, and nobody to tell my troubles to! I cannot say precisely what is the cause of my uneasiness, but I attribute the feeling principally to a letter I had yesterday from dear M^{rs} Rutledge. She tells me that M^r Baxter is in a most unamiable mood; and very much troubled with his servants. His temper will never stand this.

[132]³⁸ All the morning I was busy working; indeed from 5 o'clock; and now my labours are beginning to answer my expectations, and my bouquet, progressing nicely. M^r E. Willis came & had luncheon with me; he spoke so affectionately to me! And says that his heart always beats so much, when he comes within sight of me! He is very little altered either in manner, or appearance. Speaks so feelingly of his wife & family; and wishes he could get back to Geelong, speedily.

I wrote to M^{rs} Lyttleton on Monday; and to M^r Dyson Aplin yesterday. Tomorrow morning I must finish Marion's letter, as the Steamer leaves on Friday.

[133] Yesterday evening William dined at the Mess. I was alone, reading, when D^r Hadley kindly came to see me. He was in a queer humour, and towards the end of the evening, after sitting for some time very quietly – in fact, asleep; he said "What time is it Dudley"?

He came whilst M^r E. Willis was here today, and at 3, we went for a ride; we stood by the Barrack gate to see the soldiers march past; went to Webb's, but too late for an ice; and then on to the Gardens to eat cherries. He complained much of the warmth of the day, and said he felt more inclined to sit still than to ride; so when I got on to my horse, I determined not to go out of a walk. When we got home, he said "Good Evening"; "I must go and put up my horse"; and with this, rode into town again! So much for Truth! [134] I would so much rather he did not come & ask me to ride, if it only be a compliment, and he has other places to go to; for I must be in the way.

Alice Dickenson is married to M^r Richard Rutledge at last; and his brother says that Farnham looks quite differently already.

F. Burchett proposed to Miss Bostock, and was refused.

M^r Gantreaux has bought his Station. M^r Baxter returned for answer to M^r Connolly about the £40 – that "he knew nothing at all about it"! So like him; he is so fond of falsehood.

I found a letter, written long, long ago, by a very dear friend; and I was quite glad to find that I had one of his, left. Where is he now, the poor Wanderer? Yes! I've had enough to make me truly wretched! this case alone, was extremely miserable: [135] but, I very fortunately can seldom, unless on purpose, recall any of my misfortunes = only the bright side of the picture presents itself to my imagination.

³⁸ Not paginated in original.

Mr Lochnar sailed this morning for Norfolk Island; he is lucky in making the escape he has, – of marrying Miss R. Kemp. I shall often miss his merry face.

M^r Clarke passed Monday evening with us; he smelt so terribly of smoke, when he came in. On Friday the Governor starts for the Huon; M^r Clarke goes too. We have been passing this evening at M^r E. Bedford's; he was robbed yesterday of his coats, trousers, etc; it is a most bare-faced affair altogether. And now for the finishing stroke to this Journal.

A M Baxter

Notebook 13 (MS. Q182 Item 2): 15 December 1849 – 4 August 1850

Annie Maria Baxter

Hobart Town

Vol:17th

[15th December] Saturday – I have an event to note down in my new Journal; and altho' affording my book an interest, it is at the expense of poor M^{rs} Curll's blighted hopes! All the morning I had been very busy, & I sat down for an hour to my worsted work, when Ann came to tell me M^r Curll was in the Drawing Room; down I went, and found him with a "long" face; and as he seemed to wish me to go over to see his wife, off I went – carrying with me a bottle of – not Eau-de-Cologne – but Castor Oil! Just before I started, M^r Montgomerie and D^r Hadley called for a few minutes; the man too, who is taking Ada's likeness.

Well; I found my little friend in bed, and as I expected, she had miscarried. She had been crying a good deal, and was in slight pain; so I gave her some Castor Oil; and sent M^r Curll [2] for laudanum – He, being in a considerable fright; went for D^r MacWharrie; and not finding him, went to D^r Hadley. I was ashamed to hear his voice, for her room, and herself, were so very dirty. The counterpane & sheets were – like soot! (slightly exaggerated) I was very sorry tho' for the poor little body, as she had reckoned so much on having a little boy! We had quite a laugh; She was talking of making room for Henry in her bed, so I said he ought not to sleep there: and she said "Oh! what should I do without him! he never moves hardly; and lies with his arm round my waist!" – "and you see the effect of either this, or eating cockles".

D^r MacWharrie called, but did not see the Patient, as D^r Hadley has prescribed for her. [3] As I am vain, I may as well narrate the fact that on Thursday Evening, I had desperate attention paid to me by two of the gentlemen present; one declaring, that a little Demon had lately taken possession of him; & that he felt scarcely answerable for what he either said, or did! I advised him to cast it out! The other declared that immediately he heard me commence singing, he lost two tricks at whist, and caused a revoke. I told him never to listen to the voice of the charmer, charm he never so wisely! at which he laughed.

16th Sunday. I went up to sit with M^{rs} Curll for an hour before going to Church this morning; the carriage came for me, and Louis & I went to St David's. The Bishop preached, & a very good sermon.

D^r Hadley & Captain Pratt came in to luncheon; William too, [4] made a regular dinner of it! He & Captain Pratt went off together, and my own friend remained alone with me, until M^r Clarke came. I was quite astonished & glad to see him, as I fancied he would not return yet, for some days. He sat here with D^r Hadley & myself for some time, when in the “Haunted Man” (M^r Dry) came, with his Shadow (M^r Hollings). They remained until ½ past 4 o’clock, when I thought it adviseable to go to eat cherries at Miss Burnett’s: so off we all went. Mess^{rs} Dry and Hollings going up to M^r Allport’s, and we three to M^r Burnett’s, where I did justice to the cherries. The two gentlemen went in and sat with M^r Burnett and Miss Burnett & I walked up to M^{rs} Curll’s, where I sat until after six. On my return, I met Captⁿ Deering, Major Smyly, M^r Montgomerie & William walking = so I took the latter’s arm, and came home.

[5] Captⁿ Deering, D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} Clarke & Montgomerie dined with us; the gentlemen sat until 10 o’clock, with the exception of D^r Hadley – who sat with me instead; and who appeared to be suffering from the effects of last night’s champagne at Webb’s. I wonder if he really does like Card-playing and its general etc’s? I should not have fancied his liking the society into which he is thrown sometimes thro’ it = yet he associates with these sort of people. And I should fear greatly, another small penchant he appears to have gained lately! But let it be nameless. –

17th Monday. This is the day on which Maria wished me to go over to Longford, tomorrow being the College fête.

Whilst at my cup of tea, M^{rs} E. Bedford came in; and in a little while, Miss Buckland.

[6] The latter did not remain long, but kindly went shopping for me; and has succeeded in getting me such a pretty dress for the 1st.

M^{rs} E. Bedford stayed a long time; she was in miserable spirits, notwithstanding which, she again began about M^r Clarke’s love for me! She said she had told him, that she knew he was very fond of me; and that whatever I asked him do, he was sure to agree with me, & do it. “Oh! he does love you”! said she – “and quite as well, if not better, than, two others you know of”! This certainly was a confusing affair this time! The last attack I could parry, with confidence & § truth, but not so now. I may say that I never in the slightest degree gave M^r Clarke any idea of my preference for him, unless in the most friendly & sisterly way. I would take his hand, and talk to him, [7] as if to some younger brother = and until very lately I imagined he felt the same for me.

Yet M^{rs} Bedford is still wrong; he does not show any such thing as admiration; and [it] is only in the eye of Jealousy, that such things appear.

M^r Akers came in, and sat some time; he is just from New Norfolk: he says M^{rs} Stanley is better, and going home in the Wellington.

William drove Miss Buckland into town, and M^{rs} Bedford remained until 11 – I came upstairs as fast as I could, to hear Louis [say] his lessons, and then off I went to get ready some pâtès for M^r Meredith. William returned to luncheon, and then drove Louis down to the Steamer, where he embarked with Sir W. Denison & M^r Clarke. They are to remain away until Wednesday.

After they went, I put on my bonnet, and ran almost, to see M^{rs} Curll; I sat there until nearly 3 o'clock; and as I had ordered the horses then, to go for a ride with Louis, I came home.

[8] D^r Hadley had called whilst I was away, & said he would ride at 3 o'clock; he came in a few minutes before, and I got ready to go out. M^r Montgomerie accompanied us, so I left Louis to play with his small friends next door, as he so much wished it.

Annie was with M^{rs} Stonor for the afternoon, and she brought her home at 7. –

We rode to the gardens, and eat cherries; and walked about for some time. We next went to M^r Bicheno's, where I again indulged in the same luxury. The old gentleman appeared glad to see us; how very stout he is!

We came home about 6, and overtook D^r & M^{rs} Dawson, and the Misses Walker & Allport riding; they rode up with us, or we with them, as far as this, and then we said Adieu. [9] M^r Montgomerie came in with me, and then left; D^r Hadley sent his Mare home, and walked there himself. Miss Buckland came in whilst I was undressing, and walked with me to M^{rs} Curll's; I sat there while she went to M^{rs} Green's, and then came back with her as far as M^{rs} E. Bedford's, where I went for Louis. I then came in, and heartily glad I was to do so; – to be alone – and think.

If people only knew how much I like to have an hour to myself, or choose my own society for that hour – they would not call me as gay as they now say I am!

I am beginning "Vanity Fair", but cannot form an idea of when I shall finish it. I had a visitor at 9 o'clock, whom I am always glad to have, altho' I sometimes think the feeling is single.

[10] 25th Tuesday & Christmas-day. And this is the way in which the birth of our Merciful Saviour is commemorated! All the men, (4 in number,) and Ann, sitting in the kitchen, perfectly intoxicated. Again those exquisite words are perhaps being said "Forgive them, Father; for they know no better"! –

But how can I account for my extreme want of punctuality, in not having written for so very many days in my book. – No excuse –.

On Saturday I went with D^r Macquarie to Captⁿ Booth's; and eat such an immense quantity of cherries. On the previous Wednesday, D^r Hadley, M^r Montgomerie & I went to M^r Bicheno's and the Government Garden, and eat cherries at both places.

Sunday Mess^{rs} Clarke & Maine, D^r Hadley, and Miss Buckland dined with us.

Today D^{rs} MacWharrie & Hadley, Miss Buckland [11] and M^r Akers dined here. Late in the evening M^r Clarke came to wish us the compliments of the Season. I was much entertained by the manoeuvre of this gentleman; he certainly is a complete politician.

Yesterday D^r Hadley & I rode out to Newtown Park, the property of M^r Swanston; It is such a Delightful spot. It is more English, than any other garden I've seen since I left home; the trees are older than in most places, and there is a little clear stream running thro' the whole garden.

27th Thursday. This morning I wrote to Harriet, & explained I trust, fully, my wishes with regard to my unhappy little property; it is a most extraordinary thing that they will not settle the business at once, as they certainly could do, if they wished, having Powers-of-Attorney, etc.

[12] I sometimes think it would be better for me to take the children home to their Grandmamma; but then again William will not go now until he gets his leave of absence. My own wishes prompt me but too much to remain; in fact, when I leave this country, I leave my happiness behind me.

30th Sunday. I had intended going to church this morning, but was so extremely fatigued from my trip up the Mountain yesterday; but I've not said anything about this said trip, as yet.

On ~~Thursday~~ night we went to M^{rs} E. Bedford's, where a good many good folks assembled, for the purpose of witnessing the début of Miss Pedder. The Débutante is passablement jolie; ³⁹ she is very fair, with plenty of confidence, and a figure which requires no stays. But quite enough of the fair one; & now to other matters.

[13] We went; as I said to M^{rs} Bedford's last Soirée, as she goes to England in the Calcutta, on the 15th of next month. M^r Montgomerie too, goes in the same Vessel. D^r Hadley called for us, and we three walked in. We found several persons there before us.

³⁹ Pretty enough (French).

M^r Frazer took me under his especial charge seemingly; and it appeared like in days of yore, when he used to be so attentive to me.

Dancing commenced, and D^r Hadley asked me to honor him with the first Quadrille; but I refused the favor, as I shall never dance one with him again, and so he went off with Miss Buckland, who was sitting by my side. Captain Deering came then and asked me, but of course I refused him; so we sat down & talked over “Zimmerman, on Solitude”! I lent him the book; & he pocketed it. Poor D^r Hadley was so vexed, that he left directly almost. [14] It is a singular thing that he can & does always remain at Parties when I’m not there; but when I am, he invariably goes early. He says I cannot —

I forget what it was I was going to write, for I have been so interrupted.

Our trip up to the Ice-house was very pleasing; the ascent is very steep, and the poor horses suffered a good deal, it being so hot a day. M^r Montgomerie, D^r Hadley & I formed the party, and we had a very nice afternoon. The view from the Mountain is certainly very beautiful; and the day was so clear, we could see an immense distance. Hobart Town, 5 miles & ½ from us (beneath) was seen distinctly, and the shipping, of which there is at present a good deal in Harbour, looked well.

An old soldier of the 63rd is stationed at the “Springs”, and his hut is clean & snug. [15] He was anxious for us to have luncheon; and, not like most of we more refined persons, not only asked, but spread out his little store, in a truly hospitable style. We may frequently learn from those in more humble life, some of the Christian virtues! I have been often told that such unbounded hospitality & kindness as are practised in the Wilds of Australia for instance, are only symptoms of “Savage life”! Give me such.

31st Monday. We had a ride in the afternoon, and I remained on my way home, at St Mary’s Hospital, to take a hot bath. William dined at Mess, and I, for once, had a little hour to myself. I went into M^{rs} E. Bedford’s for a short time, and returned before 9 o’clock, as I knew my friend D^r Hadley would be sure to come & see me on the last day of the Year. And so he did; the dear, kind creature! [16] He did not remain very long: But I determined on sitting up & seeing the New Year in; So I wrote, and read, and worked. At 12 o’clock I opened the front door and walked out, to hear the bells ringing. Whilst I was standing in the garden, somebody pelted me twice with pebbles – and altho’ I asked “who was there”, still they would give me no answer = at last upon my saying “Two can play at that”, a hat was thrown over, and immediately after D^r MacWharrie jumped the fence. He is a mischievous man; but I paid him out before he left. He secured my tin box with this book in it, and I immediately pounced upon him, &

got it back; I then told him I would give him some whisky, and went to get a glass from John, who had been in bed some time. [17] The gentleman fortunately fancied I had given my little box to the man, and therefore did not torment me any more about it. After he had left the house, & was standing outside the door, I showed him the case; & he vainly tried to get in again for it.

Oh! nothing would do but I must walk with him to wish D^r Hadley “many happy returns of the New Year”; so I put on my veil, and off we went to the Barrack Gate. He sent the Drum Major up with a message to our friend to come down, as he was wanted = but he was in bed; and quietly sent us a polite message, i.e. that we might go to the D—!! This, I afterwards ascertained from the gentleman himself!

And thus ended 1849 – I’ve been happier this year altogether, than last; altho’ perhaps I should not have been! [18] I perfectly despise myself in some things, and often think to myself shall I ever be any different from what this year has made me?

Let us not too much enquire into these & other matters of such-like import! and we may then perchance be more content, at least within ourselves.

May this year have ended happily with all my friends –

Hobart town

31st December 1849.

[19] 1st of January 1850 – Tuesday.

I went to bed last night certainly, but was not allowed to sleep very much, as Mess^{rs} Macdonald & Nunn, and D^r MacWharrie came round with the Bagpipes. Now altho’ I’m not Scotch, I have such a love & admiration of anything & everything “National”, that I am especially partial to the Pipes = and was quite pleased to be awakened by them. D^r MacWharrie came up into my room, and I answered him in a very sleepy way, when he wished me a happy New Year. These times carry sadness, as well as Mirth with them; and much more of the former, than the latter to me.

I did not do much today in the way of taking exercise, as we were to go to Government House in the evening. My notes & little cadeaux were sent to Miss Burnett & Marianne; my present to dear [20] little M^r Montgomerie likewise; and he wrote me back such a kind note, so like himself – or his friend. In the course of the morning, I found a glass tooth-powder box; and I was glad to find it was just the sort of thing that D^r Hadley wanted for his toilette table.

Miss Buckland dined with us; D^r & M^{rs} Dawson called & sat some time; and finding that the children were not dressed for the evening, they went away for a short drive, and returned to see them. They both looked very nicely; Annie's high muslin dress looked *distinguée*:⁴⁰ and dear Louis always does look the "gentleman". William drove them to Government House at ½ past 6 = and when he returned, finished his dinner; I sang to D^r MacWharrie & him for some time after: then the one gentleman went up to get ready for the Ball, and the other sat on the window sill eating cherries, and talking trash. [21] At 8 o'clock William drove down, and at 9 – D^r Hadley & M^r Foster called for me in a Cab, and we proceeded to the entertainment.

After undergoing the derobing part of the play, I took William's arm, and went into the new Ball room; It is a beautiful one, and would do credit to any part of the World. I forget its length and breadth, but both are famous! You descend several steps into it, and these form quite a noble dais [sic], from which you beheld all the little folks dancing in such a pretty way to part of the 99th Band's music. Really children acquit themselves much better often, than grown up persons; the fact is, they are thinking less of what they are thought of, than we; and in consequence, they take full delight in whatever they are doing. Everybody looked well; for the lights were so good; [22] and the floor excellent; The only drawback was, that the wax at times, showered down; and occasionally, not pleasantly, on my head & shoulders.

I went into Supper with Captain Deering; danced with him twice; with M^r Frazer, with D^r Hadley twice, or three times, I fear; M^r Clarke twice; M^r Montgomerie once; and came away engaged [for] a Quadrille & Gallope. So that what with chatting, dancing, and quizzing = I passed a delightful time until nearly 2 o'clock, when a polite creature in thick boots fell, and in so doing kicked my shin badly. The wretch! I would really make men undergo a close inspection on this momentous matter, upon their entering the hall of a house where they are to dance; and to subject innocent individuals (myself par *exemple*) to such gross assault and battery!

I came home with D^r Hadley, who was all the evening most [23] kind; and we had actually no squabbling whatever.

My bouquet surpassed my usually beautiful ones; there were such exquisite flowers in it. I'm sure this is one thing I should so much miss in England, the flowers! I have quite a passion for them. The smallest child here you will see, as he goes past to church, pick a

⁴⁰ Distinguished (French).

geranium from a hedge of this (with us prized) flower, and place it in his jacket. The waggoner we see frequently with what it is termed a bucket; for his chère amie I suppose. Dear me, these trifling things in themselves should civilize the “herd”; and most true – people are very tame in “these parts”!

Well! I passed a pleasant evening, as I said before; I wore a pretty dress, of worked pink net over white satin; looked tolerably; felt amiable – and so crept into the New Year!

[24] 4th Friday. On Wednesday we rode with M^{rs} Drake; I certainly must say it was rather cold & raw, & I did not enjoy my ride as much as usual.

Thursday too, was such a dreadfully dusty day; the dust swept thro’ the streets in clouds. It being Band day, we rode to the Gardens just as the last tune was being played.

Today M^r & M^{rs} Drake, M^r & M^{rs} E. Bedford, Miss Scott and D^r Hadley dined with us; and M^r & M^{rs} Curll, the Misses Burnett, Misses Sorell, Miss Buckland = Mess^{rs} Sorell, Montgomerie, MacDonald, Nunn, and Clarke came in the evening. They remained late, owing principally to the rain, I think.

Miss B—d is smitten with the “little Saint”; it is very entertaining: and she too, attacks me in the same way as M^{rs} Bedford, only not quite so violently. [25] It is wrong in me, but I cannot help doing a slight piece of mischief whenever a chance offers itself; so I told her in a quiet way that I was anxious for M^r Clarke to get into his Cottage, that I might be able to pay him a visit; and she said very quickly “Ah! well; I suppose as you are married, you may do these things”! “Oh! yes = besides he is one of our Corps”; I replied. As she was leaving, she mentioned Miss A. Sorell’s name, and then said “Ah! that is M^r Clarke’s belle”! “Yes” – I said. “You know it is not” – she answered, in such a very snappish way – and my face became red.

Does she think I wonder, that I am fonder of the nice little Coquet, than I should be?

No! as he says himself “You never encouraged me”. – Nor ever shall, either.

6th Sunday. Yesterday we had a nice ride to O’Brien’s Bridge, [26] by way of the Orphan School. When I returned, I found that William had been here, and said I was not to wait dinner for him, after ½ past 6; but I did tho’, and he came.

It is quite amusing to see W.C. place himself at the drawing-room window with the telescope, on a Sunday morning; after sitting there generally, for some few minutes, with the blind & window up nearly to the top; all of a sudden up he jumps, and rushes out of the house. He remains during church time, on the hill; down he comes then; & goes to luncheon either at M^{rs} E. Bedford’s, or M^{rs} Stonor’s; at about 3 o’clock he again returns, and posts down to the Sorell’s, where he sits until 5, when he brings, or meets,

M^r Clarke; they lounge about until dinner time = and when I leave the room for bed, they march off together to some very public place of meeting, [27] and we hear no more of W.C. until the next morning at 11, or sometimes later; when he is brought home in a covered up Cab! Such is the Sunday entertainment.

In the afternoon I took the children to church, and found upon my return, Miss Buckland and M^r Clarke; I expressed my surprise at doing so, and the one at least, looked confused. The gentleman said he had been here three times; as he particularly wished to see me. M^r Mann came up shortly after, to have a chat, as he said. He & M^r Clarke dined here; I told D^r Hadley not to come, as I had no dinner for them = and he came in the evening. How fond I am of him! he is always so affectionate and mild in his manner towards me! But I cannot make out why he dislikes me at Parties. M^r Clarke told me an amusing anecdote of himself and wished [28] to know if there was any harm in kissing Lady Denison's french fille-de-chambre?⁴¹ The Governor saw it, he is afraid; and perhaps he may not think as I do on the matter.

7th Monday. I went down into town at 11 o'clock with Miss Buckland, to pay some bills. D^r Hadley called before I left; he is looking ill.

William started this morning by the Coach for Launceston; and he goes to Longford tomorrow, to the Races.

After luncheon the children went into M^{rs} Bedford's and I started with D^r Hadley to overtake M^r & M^{rs} Bedford, and Miss Scott = when we all rode to Brown's River; M^{rs} Freeman was out; so we set to work at the Gooseberry trees in earnest. The day was very lovely after the showery morning; and until we reached M^r Power's house nearly, we had no rain: but it [29] came on then with vengeance, and we all, I think, got a good ducking.

The Misses Burnett were here when I came home, and Miss Burnett remained with me to tea; when I put on my Polka, and sauntered into M^{rs} Bedford's, it being 12th Night; but when I got to the hall door, and heard all the merry little voices within, my heart misgave me, and I returned home again – to have a quiet hour, alone.

D^r Hadley came in and sat with me for a short time. After he had left, and I was going up to bed, I found the back door open; so ~~a~~ I went into the kitchen – which was open too, and not receiving any answer to my calls, I quietly shut & locked the house door. Ann's candle was in the midst of clothes, and I removed it into the fireplace, and then

⁴¹ Chambermaid (French).

went to bed. So my servant “voman” was locked out for the night! (unless locked in Burrowes arms; which I strongly suspect!) I, as usual, [30] suffered; for she attempted an entry into the lower bed-room, and upset two of my fuchsias.

13th Sunday – William returned last evening from Longford, and dined at the Mess; it being the last Dinner that M^r Montgomerie would have there for some time. He returned at ½ past 10 o’clock, and we sat together for nearly an hour, when I went to bed; & he went out, until this morning.

On Thursday I escorted Miss Buckland to M^{rs} Curll’s, as she gave a small party. It was oh! so very “snobbish”; composed of such an opposite collection of persons! After remaining to play a set of Quadrilles, and a Polka, I came away with D^r Hadley – my good – Genius! –

On Friday we had a nice canter on the Beach, and then went up to see the New Zealand War dance, performed in character by [31] some of the 99th men. We got up just in time to see them rush across the Barrack Square, like so many deranged men.

At 6 o’clock, Louis & Annie’s guests began to arrive; and M^{rs} Curll & M^r Montgomerie too, assisted in Tea-table duties. We had 15 little persons; the two Misses Burnett & Sorell; and we really acted our parts well! “Frog-in-the-ring”; “Blind man’s bluff”, “Forfeits”; and the old, as well as young, dance, the Polka, were severally gone thro’, with considerable effect. The party dispersed at 9 o’clock; and only M^r Clarke & D^r Hadley passed the rest of the evening with me. How I did laugh; altho’ so very tired! M^r Clarke had been the previous night to the Bible meeting; and he repeated to us the different speeches made there. I had no idea that he had so much in him! They did not leave until late.

[32] I called to see M^{rs} Buckland’s garden, and remained until Church time in the afternoon; that is to say, I was there for ½ an hour. Fortunately, there were no christenings, so we were out sooner than the carriage was ready for us, so we had to walk up nearly all the way home. I went into M^{rs} Bedford’s, and found D^r Hadley & M^r Clarke there. They walked as far as the gate with me, and then left, as I would not ask them in so late in the day; especially as they were to dine here. D^r MacWharrie sat for a long time with me; and he told me that he thought I had something the matter with my heart; it beats so much.

Captain Deering, D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} Montgomerie, Clarke, and Johnston dined here. I felt in anything but good spirits, for it was the last time in this country, at all events for some time, that [33] dear M^r Montgomerie will dine with me; and I do so much like

him. So many incidents are recalled to my mind by his name; and I can never forget his kindness to me, when I stood in need of a friend. I never could since meeting him this time, speak to him of the “old times” = but he knew I’m sure, that I felt all I should. Ah! even those miserable days were better than these partially happy ones!

16th Wednesday. On Saturday the “Wellington” left; and in it M^r Drake & family; I regret them leaving, for they were such nice persons = and one can ill afford to lose agreeable Society in a Colony.

~~Today~~ I wandered in and out of M^{rs} E. Bedford’s, and took my “Farewell” of her in the evening. She wished me to remain to tea, but I thought I might be in the way; so I brought the children off with me. Poor soul! I pity her; for I’m sure now that her [34] better sense prevails, and her infatuation is over, she really loves her husband.

M^r Montgomerie was here twice; and he went to M^{rs} Bedford’s with me once; he remained here until some other persons left, and then said Adieu. Miss Burnett was very anxious to know whether he & I had a very affectionate parting; but I told her I never “kissed, and told”! I was saying this to D^r Hadley, and he said “Oh! you might have given Montgo, a kiss”! So I replied “I never said I had not”! – at which we both laughed.

M^r Parker, who is in debt very much, had some difficulty in getting away from Hobart Town; & never would have done so, but for the joint efforts and kindness of D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} Montgomerie & Akers, and the former’s servant. We learn by this, in what a variety of ways, men may serve their fellow men = how the lower class may be useful to the higher; [35] (I was going to say “better” – but surely this would be a misapplication of the term!) and how very right it is for “brethren to dwell together, in Unity”. The three gentlemen became security for M^r Parker’s debts, as far as they knew; (never anticipating any later ones; –) and when a bailiff came in search of the “lover”, the servant hid him in the Calcutta’s hold. So he got away! and a good thing too, for far more than many think. Since he is gone, a few small cheques have come to hand, which he should not, in his right senses, have drawn. “He was oblivious”; as a friend of mine once said.

Tuesday D^r Hadley drove Annie & I to M^{rs} Dawson’s, M^{rs} Frazer’s, M^{rs} Stonor’s. The former of these is in great distress about the death of a favorite sister, the poor soul died from Cancer, and suffered very much for 18 months.

[36] I finished the slippers, and took them to be soled; Sargent is not as dear as most of the shoemaker’s.

My new habit is come home; it fits nicely, and will answer well.

Dear me! how bills accum[mulate]! I thought that I owed nothing almost = but find the contrary. For the future, I shall only get what I can pay for, at the time.

The Calcutta sailed on Tuesday morning, & she had a splendid breeze out. May they have a favorable passage in every way.

Today we had a ride round the Domain, to M^{rs} Booth's; on our way thither, we saw a crowd collecting near the "High School", and Louis came to tell us that a poor boy was drowned. I turned quite faint, and had to get off Zoë; when D^r Hadley came back from seeing the child, he went to the [37] Guard House for some water for me. Kind soul, that he is!

We had a great feed of M^{rs} Booth's gooseberries, etc = and when we went to the raspberries, we got pelted with apples, from Donald & George Hampden. The woman Isabella Graves, was there, walking about with the eldest little girl; a very nice companion for her! and then people wonder why Colonial girls are immodest?

I passed another very lonely evening; It is a bad plan, (if we can help it –) anticipating, or expecting any person's arrival whom we like.

17th Thursday – Annie's & Ada's birthday; the former 6 years old; the latter 15.

M^{rs} Curll sat the morning here, and in the afternoon took the two children & Boy, to the Government Gardens. They all walked, and were not tired. D^r Hadley & I rode there, and had [38] a canter round the Domain afterwards. Dear Ada, had only been for one ride with me before, since I returned from Port Fairy; but this day she honored me with her company.

20th Sunday. Friday we took a gallop on the Beach, and I had a regular race with Venta; she & the Mare kept together very well, until the last few strides, when Zoë would gain; & the dog became so vexed, that she would lay hold of my habit, & try to retard me.

M^{rs} Curll passed the evening with me; & before dark she & I went round to M^{rs} Buckland's, to see her, & eat some fruit. M^r Curll had gone to the rehearsal, and we were singing away, when in came D^r MacWharrie. To make a long story short, they remained until close upon 12 o'clock; (M^r Curll returned about 11.) when the lady & her spouse went, but D^r MacWharrie [39] would not move; so I put out the lamp, closed the Drawing room door, took up my candle, and left him to digest the gooseberries, and my conduct, alone! I do'nt forget his last visit.

Sometimes my heart feels breaking, when I recall past scenes & trials = and amongst these, the most bitter are, having had to listen to — — — last night again, I had

to hear, and flatter the person by saying I felt secure with him, and his extreme friendship & regard! But which of us likes to see a man in tears – in very bitterness of feeling? Not I. Now however, I'm proof against all & every one of them; & they cannot say I give them encouragement.

Well, to resume my evening's narrative; the gentleman finding I did not remain, left too. William returned from M^r J. Dunn's soon after.

[40] On Thursday he dined at M^r Power's; and very silly I thought him for doing so, for he had been far from well – and taken calomel. He has only dined once at home this week; and I never passed so long a week, since in Hobart Town.

D^r Hadley has only been here for an hour one evening during the week, and then he had eaten too much dinner, he said; = but I think he had taken too much wine! I do'nt like to see him this way; and I have so often, now, that I shall not ask him to come again, unless other persons are here.

Yesterday William was confined to his bed all day, with violent pain in his stomach.

M^{rs} Curll came for me to walk into town, to pay small bills, which I am happy to say, I did.

We left the children at M^r Sorell's, and then went on to sundry other places. [41] At Barclay's we saw D^r Hadley & Captⁿ Deering; I bought a pretty silver brooch. We went one way, they another; and after taking luncheon at Webb's, we went to M^{rs} Agnew's. We had a long chat with the little lady, and she gave M^{rs} Curll a glass of wine. We then came home, and I was so tired, I was obliged to sit down by the roadside, & rest myself. At the corner of Barrack Street, we saw our two friends coming up from Town, and I gladly took an arm from one of them. Captain Deering came as far as the lower gate, & then left us; & D^r Hadley saw me home. M^{rs} Curll soon went home; M^r Dry called to see William; and after he left, M^r Langmore sat with me for a long time.

In the afternoon we went for a ride, and intended going to M^t Nelson; but we mistook the road, and, [42] notwithstanding the Mare having hurt my stomach and made me feel quite sick with the pain, D^r Hadley continued to go up such a frightful road, at a most cruel pace – both to man & horse. We had a long ride = spoke hardly twice, and returned home at 6 o'clock – for my own part, quite tired. D^r Hadley never speaks to me when out riding; but with M^{rs} Dawson he laughs & talks, and appears so happy: yet he insists upon my going to ride with him! I really sometimes think he fancies it a duty. After dinner I sat with William, and he had a nice sleep nearly all the time; I went down to tea at ½ past 8, and soon after, M^r Clarke came. He remained until 11, and would not

go up to see William until I went to bed, altho' I so much urged him – for several reasons.

I have begun to read Macaulay's "Synes of Ancient Rome"; lent [43] to me by D^r Agnew.

The good folks have just gone into Church; and William is getting up. I must write letters – so adieu to my journal, for a time.

21st Monday. After church yesterday, D^r Hadley came; D^r MacWharrie next – then Miss Buckland; and just as we were going in to call on M^r Bedford, and see his wife's portrait, Mess^{rs} Dry & Hollings. As I do'nt like the latter gentleman, I did not in the least alter my purpose, so we three (Miss B—d D^r Hadley & self) went to make our call. We found our friend at home; & saw M^{rs} E. Bedford's likeness: it is something like, but not very much so.

D^r Hadley left us to go home, and having called for the children, Miss Buckland walked down with me on my way to church, as far as M^{rs} Hampden's. M^r Dry came with me: and I was very glad there were no christenings, as the children were very tiresome; [44] & my neck very painful.

Mess^{rs} Clarke, Dry, and D^r Hadley dined here; & Miss Buckland came in the evening – & M^r E. Bedford.

Today was the fête at the High School, and all the rabble of the town collected there, with a small sprinkling of the better class. I felt so ill in the morning, and was loath to prevent D^r Hadley's enjoying the whole day with his friends; (knowing too, as I do, how he dislikes to see me at any parties =) so I refused to go for a ride with him in the afternoon; in the course of the morning however, D^r MacWharrie came, & had luncheon here, sat here until 3 o'clock – when we went out for a canter with Louis. As we came to the Barrack gate, we met Harefield riding with a coat under his arm, and a half grin on his countenance; so I asked him if his Master had sent his horse home, & intended to stay the remainder of the day? He told us he had come for a [45] Cap, as D^r Hadley had lost his in the crowd; and certainly we did laugh. He is so fond of the Canaille,⁴² that I felt glad he was subjected to even a temporary inconvenience thro' them.

We rode thro' the Domain, and had just pulled up our horses from a trot, when D^r Hadley met us. M^r Sturt's remark upon the gentlemen going to a Ball given by Tradesmen, came into my mind yesterday; "let those go who cannot have your dear

⁴² The rabble (French).

Society”! Yes! now I’m away from him, and compare him with others – I know how much he liked me.

We went to the Government Garden, & eat plums which D^r Hadley was good enough to give; and then we finished our ride round the paddock, & met the people coming away from their luncheon, looking anything but cool – altho’ collected.

D^r MacWharrie saw me home, & then left; Marianne came & sat [46] here; and after going home to report that she was going to dine with me, came here & did so. William & M^r Clarke came just before dinner; and as M^r Nunn was leaving, after having vainly endeavoured to get me to go to an evening’s entertainment at the High School; Marianne seemed much inclined to go, if she could go with any lady whom she knew!

But as it was, she and I passed the evening alone, with the exception of M^r Nunn’s visit for a few moments; & D^r Hadley’s ditto. I suppose the latter had a pleasant evening in some of the gentlemen’s rooms, with other female society, as it was hinted to me he did last week. Well, if he likes it – I’m beginning not to care.

I slept down stairs, as my room is to be turned out.

Wrote to Mess^{rs} Connolly & Flower on the 20th inst.

22nd Tuesday. I had just finished the children’s lessons when D^r Hadley came; he remained for half an hour and left. He [47] took us for a ride in the afternoon; the day was very hot indeed to most persons, but I merely thought it looked bright.

William dined at Mess; and M^{rs} Curll came up just before he left. In the evening we took the children to Sargeant’s to have Annie measured for some shoes; Mess^{rs} Curll & Smith joined us at the Shop door. We next proceeded to M^{rs} Pratt’s, where we had tea; and after Harefield had taken the children home, we walked across the Square with Captain Pratt, heard the band, and had coffee behind the screen in the Mess-room. How well all the gentlemen looked! Their powers of conversation might have been great, but they were lost on me, as I was looking most earnestly, and never heard a word of what was being said.

When we came home, I walked up with M^{rs} Curll to her domicile, and then returned alone.

[47]* 26th Saturday. Until this morning I’ve felt unable to stoop my head enough to write; for I’ve been really quite ill from a large sore on the back of my neck. D^r Hadley lanced it on Wednesday, and it caused me great pain, and hysterics: then after poulticing it until the following day, made it fit to open again, and D^r Dawson did so. It certainly has been great pain, & I do hope no more will come there.

William drove M^{rs} Curll & the children to the Gardens on Thursday, when he immediately left her & them, to their fate – which had likely to have been an inglorious one to poor Louis, who was caught by M^r Newman picking plums, & nearly turned out of the garden for the same!

I had such a delightful letter from Tom Brown; poor boy! I never have written to him, one word, as he truly says. Port Fairy is going on much as usual, with the exception of some [48] new arrivals.

Yesterday I had a ride, and it was quite a treat, after being in my room two days.

I lent Zoë to Captain Deering, and the first day he liked her; but the second, she kicked too much to be pleasant.

The night before last I had such an extraordinary dream; I thought D^r Hadley, M^r Clarke & I were riding in such a lovely spot; all of a sudden we came to a large river running in a sort of ravine: the water was clear as only is to be seen in climates with skies like this; = and at last our horses were up to their knees in water. I got off to move a raft of wood, which it seems prevented our getting to the dry land on the other side; & I could hear my friend calling out “Oh! Annie! why do you risk your life in this way”? I laughed; – but upon getting [48] to the opposite side of the stream, I felt quite differently inclined, as a huge black man took me in his arms, and embraced me — — My friends looked on, and said nothing.

M^{rs} Curll passed last evening with me, & at a little after nine, left; just as D^r Hadley came in. William dined at M^{rs} D’Arch’s.

M^r Nunn had a fall from his horse, & broke a small bone in his arm.

I like the “Ancient Lays”, so very much; some parts are beautifully described.

28th Monday. Yesterday I went ~~wh~~ with Louis & Edward Bedford in the morning to church; it was very full, and very hot! What a pity it is that the windows cannot be opened, when the heat is so oppressive!

D^r Hadley called in just before luncheon, and then rode up to pay his visit to Miss Donaldson.[50] This lady arrived by the Emma from Sydney; and they tell me, is fond of D^r H—y! I should say she must have some great attractions to make up for her outward appearance, if he ever returned the sentiment. What a fond husband he would make! He would deserve all a Woman’s love! I really like him better than I ever thought it possible to like any one.

He, and M^r Clarke passed the whole afternoon with me; and we went to see M^r E. Bedford; – so finding him out, we took a turn in his garden, and I eat such quantities of fruit.

Captain Deering, D^r Macwharrie & our usual “two”, dined here; they did not come out of the dining room until very late – and I think that next Sunday I shall leave the room vacant for their reception. I hate tipsy men!

After they left at 11 o’clock, I put on my loose gown, [51] and cloak and went over to sit with Ellen, and remained there until very late, or early rather! She is a poor helpless creature.

This morning when the carriage returned from the Office, I took it to M^{rs} Dawson’s, and made my call on her friend. She was telling us how useful the third crutch in the saddle was, and how it had saved her once when her horse fell with her. “I was, (to quote her own words) riding with a gentleman who said I had better let him lift me off my horse, as he felt certain my leg was broken; but I assured him, there was nothing broken about me, only the crutch had better be removed”! When I left, M^{rs} Dawson came with me to the gate, & I repeated the words “there is nothing broken about me”; & said I believed it – “Only”, said M^{rs} Dawson laughing immoderately, “only, take the crutch out”! How we laughed!

I next went to M^{rs} Burgess’, and saw the poor old lady, and [52] the Misses Scott. They are going to pay M^{rs} Frazer a visit of some days.

After I returned, D^{rs} Hadley & Dawson came to see me; the former left soon, & the latter remained some time. Whilst he was here, an alarm of fire was given at the Factory and the Engines were sent up there, and the “Army” turned out. Majors Last & Ainsworth were very active = and it is what everybody might expect from two such able-bodied men! No doubt they were fancying to themselves a fair reward at the end of their toils; their heated imaginations going very far to their assistance – (as I have [no] doubt it would!)

All the fire ended in smoke! And the “army” returned. I don’t know whether the Colonel dismissed them in the words of Bombastus Furioso – “Begone brave Army, and don’t kick up a row”! –

M^r E. Bedford dined with us; and M^r & M^{rs} Curll, and D^r Hadley came in the evening.

[53] William went out with the latter person when he left, & after seeing them into their Cab, I went over to see Ellen. It has been such a hot day! We went for a ride in the afternoon; but the Mare was so tricky, I returned. Marianne sat with me until dinner.

I've answered Tom's letter, and M^r Flower's too.

30th Wednesday – I have not ridden since Monday. and I am not very likely to do so, as Zoë is to be “laid up” for a few days.

Yesterday D^r Hadley & I went into M^r E. Bedford's garden, and eat fruit, and ditto today.

Marianne passed the evening with me on Tuesday, and D^r Hadley came in too. After Marianne had left, D^r MacWharrie rang at the bell, & I opened the door, & told him he was too late to come in.

[54] William went to the rehearsal last night; & tonight we went to the Theatre to see the Amateur performance. M^{rs} Curll dined with us, & went with us. We found it very crowded; I was so very tired long before we left – which was before the rest of the multitude; and when we got home, we found John quite fou, so William, according to promise, gave him such a boxing! After he had changed his dress, and gone down for M^r Clarke to bring up to the Barracks to Supper, I walked home with M^{rs} Curll – she being too frightened to remain in her own house, with only the Man servant! I certainly owned to myself that I was very good-natured to go! At about ½ past 12 o'clock, Hannah made her appearance, on her return from the Theatre, & I came home; having a chat with D^r MacWharrie on my way ~~thither~~ hither.

It is the last performance I shall attend; indeed I went this time quite against my will.

[55] 31st Thursday. Another very warm day, and with it came John's departure; Really it is a good thing when one thinks coolly of it, for he was always so terribly unsteady.

Burt, an old servant of William's has come to us, and he knows all his ways, etc – so far, it is comfortable. I intend getting another woman servant, and then all will be right.

Today I have had a regular levée; Mess^{rs} Hollings, Langmore, Dry, Schaw = Captain and M^{rs} Hamilton, Miss Schultz, Marianne, M^{rs} Curll; M^{rs} Dawson & Miss Donaldson.

D^r Hadley called for a few minutes in the morning, and at ½ past 4 o'clock in the afternoon; I did not go to the Gardens I am sorry to say, as I had no horse to ride, & nobody to go with me, until too late = but I did not very much mind, as I felt a very queer pain [56] now & then, in my stomach. William & Captain Hamilton dined out; M^r & M^{rs} Curll came just as I was sitting down to dinner, and insisted on my going to see the new château, which I don't think he will take. She is a silly little woman, and is always wanting to change houses, or some such absurdity = and she will tire his patience at last. There is actually no room for their bed to stand in, and I said so; and he then said “There you see Nelly, M^{rs} Baxter says so, too”?

I was alone all the evening, as D^r Hadley told me he would come, but preferred whist; so I refused to go to the Curll's – He sent me a note and a bottle of Mille-fleurs, instead; which I returned. As if a present could make up for a broken word! –

[57] 3rd of February – Sunday.

I have kept my room, indeed I may almost say my bed, since Thursday; a most unfortunate coincidence at any time, but more especially so just now that Captⁿ Hamilton is here. But I am better tonight; (nearly 3 o'clock of Monday Morning!) and hope to be down stairs tomorrow. I know that just now I am under the influence of Opium; William has been sitting with me, & has not been long gone to bed. He had Captains Deering & Hamilton, D^{rs} Hadley and MacWharrie, and M^r Clarke dining with him, and they did not leave until after 12, I think; he then went with them to the Barracks, and stayed until after 1.

There is a Vessel in from England with a very large mail; I have rather a horror of anything of the sort coming now!

[58] D^r Hadley has been sitting with me this evening, & he remained nearly an hour in the middle of the day with me. D^r Dawson sat with me a long time; and D^r MacWharrie too.

Miss Buckland paid me a visit, and wished excessively to come this evening and sit with me; but D^r Hadley said she had better not.

Yesterday was his Birthday; 36 I believe. How very much better he looks now, than last year, & much younger. I gave him the slippers, & he tells me, they fit him nicely. He gave me such a pretty little basket – and apricots! I could dwell on his kindness for ever, I do think; but I must pass to another! I've at last been introduced to a person named Hobbs! such a privilege! And the man corresponds to the name in such a first-rate style! It is quite wonderful, how beautifully figure, face, hat, everything coincide with the [59] name of Hobbs! Yet I ought not to laugh at, or ridicule the poor man, as he is sadly reduced in his worldly affairs = in fact is, what I have such a horror of hearing mentioned – “a decayed gentleman”!

4th Monday. The Calcutta has sailed three weeks tonight, and I hope the Passengers are getting over their sickness, & making themselves amiable.

I am much better tonight, altho' I've been so ill all day. D^r Dawson sat with me some time in the morning. D^r Hadley and William have just left me, to go to some Fight or other; poor Captⁿ Hamilton is very poorly with dysentery.

M^{rs} Curll came to see me in the afternoon, and I was too ill almost to hear her talk. Oh! my poor little pet Joey has lost his voice; & he talks in a sort of whisper.

Ann left today; & the new servant woman came; she is elderly, [60] and seems cleanly in her dress.

By yesterday's Mail, William heard of M^r Jacquier's death; he died from Cholera, after only two days illness. I suppose the children are well off; we shall see = and I'm sure I trust so.

I've been reading "Legends of Ireland" by Lover; and tonight began "English fireside", such a well-written tale.

8th Friday. This is the 15th Anniversary of my very happy Wedding-day! Fifteen long years – most of them of Misery & want! No wonder I have such a merry face and mood.

Yesterday was William's Birthday; he does not like to keep such days, so I said nothing about it. We went to the Band; I rode, and he drove M^{rs} Macpherson there, and M^{rs} Stonor.

On Wednesday I rode for the first time these 11 days; I had the pleasure too, of riding Bessie, she is very gentle now, [61] and has such a beautiful mouth. Poor D^r Hadley victimized himself by kindly riding Peter.

I feel this morning so weak & miserable; and I am sure I do not give way to the mopes, either. The pain in my stomach continues, and I think I must have hurt myself in some way on last Thursday = c'est égal.⁴³

Yesterday Captⁿ Hamilton, M^{rs} Macpherson & Miss Schultz dined with us; and D^r Hadley came in the evening. How glad I was to see him, for I had been vexed all day with him. I get so cross when he comes in later than usual of a day, and says "I had business in town", when I know, that he goes prowling about, doing nothing, but peep under people's bonnets – or speaking to them! Then I do hate untruth, in any shape. M^r Clarke was here for a long time on Wednesday; he became [62] quite heated in his manner; and I did certainly worry him a little bit.

D^r MacWharrie & Captain Pratt sat with me this morning (I mean yesterday,) for some time. Today I paid Kissock!

11th Sunday. Yesterday D^r & M^{rs} Dawson, Misses Scott & Donaldson; Mess^{rs} Clarke, Akers, Johnston, D^r Hadley, Capt^{ns} Hamilton & Hadden & myself rode & walked to the Springs. Some of the party, more able than myself, walked from the Springs to the Ice

⁴³ It's all the same (French).

house, and amongst the number Miss Donaldson; when she got within some short distance of the top, her strength failed her, and she became anxious to ride instead of walk; so Miss Scott who was returning, lent her Fatima. The lady was too timid to ride down; M^r Clarke too ungallant to lead her horse; & so the poor thing had to lead it herself – which sadly vexed her. She became very wrath; and regularly [63] attacked Miss Scott when she reached the hut, where several of us were sitting. She is a bitter little woman. M^{rs} D— became quite excited, and shrieked out with delight & — We got home in very good time, and William & Captⁿ Hamilton dined at Government House; M^r Frazer came in & sat with me a short time before starting in the Cab with them.

At ½ past 8 o'clock D^r Hadley came down, & told me there was a fire near Stowell; I rushed up and down the stairs in vain, to catch a glimpse of it. It was a Carpenter's shop, and therefore made a good blaze.

2[] Sunday. I'm perfectly vexed with myself for being so wanting in punctuality as not to have written for so long a time in my poor journal; I've no excuse; and this is what annoys me. Shall I make it up with myself, and say "I'll behave better for the future"?

[64] Today William, D^r Hadley, Captain Deering & I started for Launceston; they three *exprès*⁴⁴ for the Races, I to go to Longford & see my good friends there.

We had a delightful day for our journey, the sun not being too hot; there was one stout old lady in the Coach with D^r Hadley & myself – and sometimes one, sometimes another of the rest of our party. At Campbell Town we met D^r & M^{rs} Dawson and Miss Donaldson just coming from church; I delivered the parcel belonging to the former lady. When we reached Perth I left the Coach, and walked to M^{rs} Chiene's; I was so sadly tired that I fell fast asleep whilst she was talking to me. She is looking so much better; has a "Temperance Frame" over the mantel-piece; and her little cottage will in time be very snug. Mem.⁴⁵

[65] Friday 1st of March. On Monday I remained with M^{rs} Chiene; and on Tuesday morning I went into town by the Mail. Nobody came to meet me at the Coach Office, being too much taken up with themselves I presume; so I walked to the Cornwall alone. About an hour after my arrival, D^r Hadley politely paid me a visit; Captain Deering, M^r Mercer & M^r Dry likewise. How lonely I felt ~~today~~ this day to what I used when formerly here. Then I had the society of the man I so much loved – Yes! he was the only

⁴⁴ Especially (French).

⁴⁵ Memorandum – not inserted in this case.

man I ever said I loved! And how I have blighted his life! and thrown away the true, disinterested, esteem; & fond oh! how fond love he bore & does bear me! How in the midst of all, & every, gaiety, he used to glide away, and pass every moment with me! how I can now recall his sweet voice saying, “You will be at home this evening, won’t you”? Yes, I did indeed miss him = & I shall not go to Launceston again; it’s charm is lost!

Well, I went with William to see “Swordsman” win; & was unfortunate enough to see him beaten for the first time in his life. [66] D^r Dawson brought the Misses Walker and Miss Donaldson to see the Races, so I had a chat with them. The Races were miserably attended, I thought; but others may have thought differently, as the company consisted of persons more in their line.

After the Race was over, I left with D^r Hadley; I dined with M^{rs} Cox: walked up with D^r Hadley to see M^{rs} Welman, who paid him sundry compliments; and made many deep regrets at his being unable to dine with them yesterday. I returned early from M^{rs} Cox’s, and M^r Langmore had a chat with me. The gentlemen kept up very late, until nearly 3 o’clock; I do’nt mean Captⁿ Deering or any of the party who remained at the Cornwall; but those who preferred more refined society at cards!

On Wednesday I remained at home most of the day; M^r & M^{rs} Swan called on me at 1 o’clock; & D^r Brock [67] came and drove me out at 2, to see M^{rs} Brock, who was staying at M^r Sams’. In the afternoon I was too ill to go out; & obliged to use fomentations to my stomach; lie down on the sofa by a fire, and in fact, nurse myself. The gentlemen did not return from the Races until 6 o’clock, and then none of them but M^r Langmore paid me a visit; he went down to dinner, and returned very soon and sat with me until 11 o’clock. I told him to say to William at dinner that I was in town, but he did not, and W.C. found me out only by coming & seeing me just before he went to the Masquerade. Such a figure too, as he went there! I wished so much to see D^r Hadley, but William said he was going to the Ball, so I never thought of sending to him. I must say I wondered at his never coming to see me; yet I fancied perhaps he had smoked too much.

Yesterday morning I left at 10, with D^r & M^{rs} Brock, & I was in such miserable spirits all the way out; it was in vain M^r [68] Brock chatted away, & tried to amuse me; the tears would stream down my cheeks! I feel too keenly = I never can wait to hear, before pronouncing sentence.

We waited dinner for the gentlemen yesterday, but they did not come; and only made their appearance at a little after Five today; they had been to Rhodes on their way out. They talk of going to see M^{rs} Toosey tomorrow.

Maria, M^{rs} Lyttleton and M^{rs} Bradbury, went out at 3, and returned in time for dinner; M^r Boyd came in at dinner time, but left when M^r Davies returned ~~his~~ from the Club that he had gone to visit at 7.

There was a letter from M^r Curll to William, telling him of poor little Joey's death; my dear little companion! I shall miss him very much – with his pretty prattle; He was the first pet, of the kind; and he will be the last.

[69] 2nd Saturday. The gentlemen came up about 12, and soon after we went to Cressy; Maria, Captⁿ Deering, D^r Hadley & myself. William accompanied D^r & M^{rs} Dawson to Entally.

M^{rs} Toosey was at home; she is a most peculiar looking person; not much altered from when I last saw her. The Estate is so much improved, much more cleared than when I was last here = but that was nine years ago! Alas! there has been no improvement in me; I fear. Maria & I walked over to M^{rs} Homes, and asked her to dinner; she came – and William made his entrée⁴⁶ as we sat down to dinner.

M^r J. Macarthur returned in the afternoon; he appears rather a nice person.

I was so glad to see D^r Hadley, but he has scarcely spoken to me; never even paid me the common civilities of good-breeding; such as taking wine, etc = and today altho' he saw that M^r Davies left me for him to take into dinner, he [70] preferred asking M^{rs} Bradley – and being too late there, asked me! He is a strange creature. Tonight when he was going away, he would not have said “Good Night” even, if I had not reminded him! So much for Friendship! And yet he is so naturally kind-hearted, I cannot think he intends wounding my feelings.

Captain Deering, au contraire,⁴⁷ seemed to enjoy chatting with me; and scarcely left my side. Maria does not like the latter gentleman = and seems to think he was too attentive! She & M^r Davies say that D^r Hadley looks so much better than he did, which delights me. Maria says he is such a complete Bachelor.

8th Friday – Maria's 33rd Birthday. M^r Davies & M^{rs} Lyttleton have gone into Launceston, and we start by this evening's coach for Oatlands. I have been suffering very much ever since Sunday afternoon with an attack of Tic douloureux; it has been so

⁴⁶ Entrance (French).

⁴⁷ To the contrary (French).

wearying, that I really feel quite ill and weak. [71] They wish me very much to remain here some time longer, thinking that the change will do me good; but I agree with D^r Kilgour in thinking “Hobart Town may be better suited to my complaint”. Poor little man! he said yesterday he had never seen me look so ill. Notwithstanding which, we went to Entally, and very glad I was we did, for M^r & M^{rs} T. Reiby are such nice persons; their cottage is very pretty - their grounds likewise, they are both goodlooking; and altogether “Entally” is quite a refreshing place to visit. We left soon after luncheon, and drove home as we had gone, accompanied by Rowley on his poney, for whom I had asked a half-holiday.

On Wednesday we went to the College, and I made M^r Windsor’s acquaintance; I was a little disappointed with his manner, having heard so much of him before, but he was very kind, and granted me a holiday for the Students. The College is a nice building enough, altho’ it should have [72] been better I believe, considering the sum expended on it. The site is beautiful, only wanting water to make it perfect. The Western ranges at the back are so grand! & the day was peculiarly favorable to see them in.

Whilst we were there, Mess^{rs} Dumeresq & Langmore came in; and upon the latter person asking me to take a turn in the garden, I attacked him for not telling me that D^r Hadley was in his room at the Cornwall, the last evening we passed there together. He laughed quite heartily, and said that he knew very well had he told me, I should have sent to him to sit with me, & he “should not then have enjoyed my society – ~~which~~ (until lately!) the delights of which had[,] he imagined, been exaggerated”! I said the compliment was very greatly at my expense, inasmuch as I had lost an evening’s entertainment that I greatly relished – viz. D^r Hadley’s company. “I know you do”! he replied very sharply; “I was not long in finding that out; ’twas not likely I should be. Hadley never liked me, he’ll hate me now”! I begged to assure him that he was [73] mistaken; – but he only ended by saying “Well, I’m glad I’m going soon”.

I had the pleasure of receiving a note from D^r Hadley, altho’ my amour-propre⁴⁸ was a little touched when I found that he had forgotten to write to me until almost too late for the Post; This merely comes under the head of “Remembrance”. Miss Buckland too, kindly wrote me, (notwithstanding her numerous avocations) a nice letter. She amuses me by mentioning a party at M^{rs} Stevenson’s, at which the good folks were

⁴⁸ Self-esteem (French).

vulgarly called “carrying on” in great style. A musical party too at M^{rs} Despard’s, at which she assisted, & which went off well.

I had letters from M^r Smith, from Hong-Kong; and from Miss Burnett, from George Town. The former writes in his usual affectionate, kind way; the latter in her usual style of lecturing, “forgiving”, and being an injured individual!

I wrote to D^r Hadley and Miss Burnett yesterday, to the former from love & esteem; & the latter because she is so [74] very touchy & complaining. And now I must go & chat with Maria, whom I think is returned from M^{rs} Horne’s.

14th Thursday. We left Longford last Friday evening, in M^{rs} Davies’ carriage, and met the Coach at Perth: M^r & M^{rs} Frances, and M^r Foster were my fellow-passengers, as far as Oatlands – where M^r Dry, William & I remained the Night. Next morning we came on to Hobart Town by the Oatlands coach, and I considered myself very fortunate in not having more than one stout woman in mourning, and a filthy child – (the latter procuring this appellation from me, from various causes too dirty to relate!) The Mother evidently was fond of “ardent spirits”, and every time the Coach stopped, she availed herself of the same, to taste the “Cratur”. I was in great pain with my face, and did not answer any of her queries – indeed, I was in hopes at one time, that she would have taken me for either deaf or dumb.

At last, the child having committed a depradation [sic] [75] I felt very sick, and turned pale I presume! – The woman leant over to my side, and said, “Lord bless us! you look troublesome bad; your eyes is getting black all round them; nothin’s going to happen ye I hope, eh? I could not answer, I felt convulsed from laughter & sickness together; so I gave the child a plum to amuse it, & turned to the window.

“Lord save us! bless my heart! only to see that! as I’m alive there goes two wheels along of a boat in the water – Well! I am a new chum, never to have seen one on ’em before”! All things must end, and at last we got into Hobart Town, and very glad I was to do so, and to see D^r Hadley by the coach side.

On our way up, we took M^r Clarke into the carriage, and drove him with us.

Sunday Mess^{rs} Dry, Mercer, & Clarke; Captⁿ Deering, and D^r Hadley dined with us; we had a pleasant party – [76] and Miss Buckland came in the evening. W.C. went away with the gentlemen, & I did not see him until the following day.

Tuesday he dined at Mess, & I did not see him until late the next day; D^r Hadley came in the evening. Wednesday William dined with M^r Clarke and did not return until the following day. D^{rs} Hadley and MacWharrie both passed the evening here.

Thursday William dined at home, and kindly asked Miss Buckland to pass the evening here; immediately after dinner away he went, and did not return until very late today – 16th Saturday – We have had two such desperately hot days; yesterday was intolerably so; and I did not move out until nearly 5 o'clock. D^r Hadley & I rode round the Domain, and called at M^{rs} Booth's, whom we found looking very pretty. Her first enquiry was "Any news in town"? To which D^r Hadley [77] replied, "Yes; Miss Sorell is to be married immediately to M^r Arnold". "Oh! I heard that long ago", said M^{rs} Booth. Now the proposal only took place on Monday morning before his leaving town, so that I fear the knowledge was merely a surmise.

It is true tho', that M^r Arnold is to be victimized if nobody comes sooner to the "relief"! She is determined certainly to get somebody to marry her; and no sooner sets one engagement aside, than she contracts another.

I recollect tho' being engaged to three persons at one time – Mess^{rs} Horton, Bodham & Cox! The first is now a Baronet; (and really, my heart beat a trifle, the other day when D^r Dawson mentioned him!) the second a Major in the Army, with an excellent private income, and George Cox, (whom I nearly killed with anxiety & love) is just married, and is come into his Father's large fortune! Et moi? here am I without almost a penny – and the only thing that I love & may own to, a dog! [78] Such is my lot! such is the fate I've richly merited & received. After this, and more, much more! should I complain? This morning I called on M^{rs} Maclean, Misses Burnett, & M^{rs} Priaulx. I was talking to the former about the principal on dit, and she said "But why did Miss Sorell continue the engagement with M^r Elliott, when I believe, he offered to break it off"? "Oh"! said I, "there she was quite right; she had no idea of giving up a man whom she had known so well for three weeks, or a fortnight"! M^{rs} Maclean was quite entertained, and said that my brother would have said exactly such a thing.

We this afternoon paid M^{rs} Pratt a visit; and then went round the Domain, to see M^r Bicheno: the old gentleman was at home, and we sat there some time. William & D^r Hadley dined with M^r E. Bedford at ½ past 6 o'clock; and I had another evening alone. [79] 17th Sunday – St. Patrick's Day. I took the children to church this morning, & was disappointed in not hearing the Bishop preach.

D^r Hadley walked home with M^{rs} Curll & I; and Mess^{rs} Dry & Mercer came in to luncheon soon after. They have all gone with William to Cooley's = a good amusement for a Sunday afternoon. Smoking cigars, drinking ale, and I doubt not, making bets.

I am reading “Priests, Women, and Families” – by Michelet. The work has caused a great stir in the world. One pretty little observation has come under my notice, and from it’s truth, I introduce it here; “You know that love changes to itself whatever it loves;” remarks Morin, in ~~th~~ his “thoughts”.

M^{rs} Curll is in an interesting state again, & she is not the only one who feels so = altho’ it is not very well to always make known these things.

I wrote to M^{rs} M^cLeod & M^r Sturt by M^r Mercer.

[80]⁴⁹ Captain Deering, D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} Dry, Clarke, Mercer & Langmore dined with us; the gentlemen were so long in the Dining room, that I betook myself to bed. D^r Hadley came up to ask me if he could do anything for me, but I did not see him.

20th Wednesday – Monday I was too ill to ride; yesterday William & Louis rode with us; and today M^r Johnston favored us with his company.

I passed a sad night, the last one; I was quite delirious = and this morning really very ill. In the morning M^{rs} Frazer & Miss Scott called, and sat some time. Tomorrow Night the Amateurs kindly perform for the benefit of M^{rs} Ecclesdon. I am not going, altho’ I had a ticket given me.

M^r Clarke sat with me this evening just before dinner; he has been to see M^{rs} Stanley down the River: She is gone in the “Emma” to Sydney; and from thence she proceeds to England in the “Rattlesnake” commanded by her brother-in-law, Captⁿ Stanley.

[81] M^{rs} Macpherson, Miss Schultz, and the two young gentlemen passed Monday here; Tuesday I went up to see M^{rs} Pratt & M^{rs} de Winton, and my two neighbours were there, so we walked up together. We met M^r Dry, who returned with us; & today he & William are gone to New Norfolk, whither they are followed tomorrow morning by D^r Hadley, Captⁿ Deering & M^r Johnston. The Races take place there tomorrow & Friday. M^{rs} Macpherson & family are gone in the “Emma” to Sydney; & M^{rs} Barrow & Miss Kemp too.

Miss Buckland dined with me today, but left early, when D^r Hadley came in & sat until Ten. And now to bed, for I’m tired.

21st Thursday – William wrote to M^r Baxter yesterday, and enclosed his letter in one to M^r Rutledge; it was a severe, but gentlemanly, one; and I only wish it may have some good effect. [82] I sent mine to M^r Connolly today. Likewise I wrote to M^{rs} Rutledge and sent her the purse for the gentleman’s bag.

⁴⁹ Not paginated in original.

D^r MacWharrie kindly accompanied me in my ride this afternoon; we first went to see how M^{rs} de Winton was, then on thro' the Domain.

As we were returning, a soldier met us, to tell D^r MacWharrie that M^r Despard had met with an accident; he had been playing at Rackets, and the ball hit him in the eye, and he will very likely lose the sight of it, in consequence. How very sad!

A little before 8 o'clock, Harefield came to take me to M^r Frazer's, where I passed the evening very pleasantly. M^r Frazer however, came for me, and walked up by Zoë's side; Harefield brought her home. I gave his little daughter a book, and a marker for it.

My evening was quite agreeable; they petted me so much; and M^r Frazer brought me home on "Tommy".

[83] 22nd Friday –After lessons this morning, (which by the way were rather tedious) I had a visit from D^r MacWharrie, who came to ask me if I would go for a ride this afternoon with him as he was doing D^r Hadley's duty for him! He is certainly an amusing character, & to me, very estimable. M^{rs} Curll next came in and remained to have luncheon; Captain Pratt & M^r Johnston too; the latter kindly offered to ride with me – but I was pre-engaged; and he remained to luncheon. Miss Buckland came in, and during the meal, a person came to ask for M^{rs} Curll! I appeared astonished & delighted; said I had no idea that she was of as much consequence – in her establishment; and asked her if she was sure she had not brought away the keys of the Larder & storeroom? The rest of the party laughed; but nothing to what we all did afterwards, when she returned to the table & said "Oh! our large bedstead [84] is come"! M^r Johnston could in no way contain his mirth! Some time after, she was saying to Miss Buckland "Were you not hungry after the Theatre last night"? "No, but very thirsty;" was the reply. "Oh! I did enjoy my basin of bread & milk so much; I was so hungry"; said M^{rs} Curll. I saw Miss Buckland put on her look of "why-does-she-say-such-things"? and I said very quietly "Well, I must confess that my enjoyments are more intellectual than those of large beds, and basins of bread & milk"! A fresh peal of laughter ensued.

All left in about an hour after luncheon; & I was alone a short time. M^r Frazer paid me a visit, and sat until I went for my ride with D^r MacWharrie. He dined with me; & unusually [85] early, D^r Hadley came in; having returned from New Norfolk before dinner. They both went away together at 10 o'clock, to the Hospital, and to see M^r Despard. I am so feverish tonight.

23rd Saturday. M^r Dry and William did not return from New Norfolk until nearly 5 o'clock. The children had gone for a walk with Jane, & I was going for a ride with D^r

Hadley: Miss Scott came in, and sat until nearly ½ past 5 o'clock, when she left with William; who walked up to M^r Frazer's with her.

M^r Dry & Miss Buckland dined with us; the latter came in, as usual, just as we were going to dinner. She has come in from the Newtown Race Course, whither her pupils had taken her; then she walked up to M^{rs} Curll's – as if she could not have sent the money – and then, in here.

[86] We were speaking of M^r Clarke; and I said “Ah! he asked me to go and dine with him some day next week, when you went;” turning to William – “You asked yourself; he did not ask you;” said Miss Buckland. “Indeed”! I exclaimed a little ruffled, certainly – “I shall ask M^r Clarke what I did say.” – “Oh! he would say anything”; she retorted – “And so would you, I think, after saying all you have”; – I returned. She foolishly imagines all persons admire the gentleman as much as she does. She left early; & M^r Dry remained until 10 o'clock; then walked home.

I finished Michelet's work of “Priests, Women, and Families”; and another book entitled “Daughters”.

Lent my Scrap-book & Journal to M^r Frazer.

24th Sunday. And what have I learnt today? Why, only what I might have guessed before, that Andrew Clarke Esqr Royal Engineers – Private [87] Secretary to his Excellency Sir W. Denison – is, when he chooses – (and which he did choose this evening to be) a great Bear!

It rained in the morning, and so we did not go to church; in the afternoon I went in with D^r Hadley to M^r E. Bedford's. I next walked up to M^{rs} Curll's with M^r Gaynor, and on to Miss Burnett's, whom I found at home.

Miss Buckland, Capt^{ns} Collinson (R.E.) & Deering, D^r Hadley; Mess^{rs} Clarke & Dry dined with us today – and this was the reason that I said M^r Clarke was a Bear; – for in the middle of Miss Buckland and my singing, he shouted out, in the most ill bred manner. I felt more vexed for my Visitor than myself, because my voice is never anything to speak of; but she has such a pretty one, and always sings so willingly.

I must for the future adhere to my purpose of not seeing the gentlemen after dinner.

They are fonder of wine & filthy topics, than refinement.

[88] 25th Monday. Oh! I've had such a delightful surprise today, in a long letter from Robert Massie. I answered it before going to bed; and I hope he may come over in May, to see me again.

William dined at home, but went out directly after dinner, and returned about 10 o'clock, to find Burt out without leave. He was in a sad way! He had an appointment at M^r Clarke's, and at first he said he would not go until Birt returned; but he altered his mind, and left: and did not return until nearly 1 o'clock.

In the meantime, a man on horseback called, & as he seemed determined not to give me the important message he conveyed, I sent him down to M^r Clarke's. Up stairs I came again, and had just got into the pith of my story, when "ring!" went the door bell; and upon my asking from William's window "who was there?" [89] a Constable said he wished ~~to wish~~ to speak to me; so down I went in dressing gown and slippers, and held a parley with the man. He had brought the key of Birt's room, which he found in his pocket – together with a pair of gloves, and a duplicate from some pawnbroker's. I was quite pleased at the man being in the Watchhouse; & placed there ~~wme~~ by any person but ourselves. After thanking the man for his civility, I went to bed; and soon after William came home.

27th Wednesday. Yesterday morning M^{rs} Curll & I drove into town, and I got the wools for Margaret. Likewise I bought a merino dress, which I sincerely wish I could make myself.

I was so sadly fatigued with walking back from Webb's, that I was unfitted for anything – even my ride; so I lent William the mare again; (he had her in the morning to go to see a fight somewhere down the river,) and he made some calls.

[90] Captain Deering called; Miss Buckland whilst we were at breakfast in the morning; M^{rs} Frazer & Miss Scott, twice whilst I was out; and M^{rs} Stonor, when we were at luncheon. In the afternoon, M^r & M^{rs} Frazer sat with me.

William went to bed at 8 o'clock, and I remained working until after 9 o', when I came up to bed; but had scarcely done so, when Dr Hadley called, & I went down to him for a few minutes.

28th Thursday. Just as my lessons were over, M^r Thompson, (of the "Meander") came, and sat some time. He left with William. D^r Hadley came a little before 2 o'clock, and remained until he was sent for, to M^r Despard. William came in again about ½ past 3, and brought with him a M^r Oldfield, of the "Meander";⁵⁰ he is such a queer looking [91] "Deputy"; very short; very little eyes; and very like Maria Schaw. He went for a ride with D^r Hadley & I; he, having kindly lent him his grey mare. We fell in with M^r

⁵⁰ Pencilled under Meander is "aeander" – presumably Josiah Thompson has corrected AB's spelling: Meander =Maeander.

Johnston thro' the paddock gate, & he returned with us; We went to see the New Norfolk Cup; and it's winner, "Swordsman". The latter looks remarkably well; he is in beautiful condition. M^r Dry was at Cooley's, and held the horse's head, whilst we looked at him.

M^r Thompson & D^r Hadley dined with us. I feel much better tonight, having trotted some distance home; this I did, merely because I was told! (Alas) in the cause of wrong, how obedient we are!

The blank, utterly miserable feeling which has now come over me, I should be sorry for anybody that I loved to feel; (but Men & Women differ so thoroughly in their ideas; the former are all self)⁵¹ = the latter all generosity.

[92] 29th Friday – I awoke in such tribulation in the middle of last night, from a dream I had; I thought I was sleeping in the same room with M^r Baxter, and I was washing my feet before getting into bed; I had writing materials on a chair before me, and a candle; & I was going to write a note to M^r Massie. All at once I felt that horror creep over me that always did when he came near me; and upon looking up, I saw his dreadful look fixed on me! – "Who are you going to write to?" said he; "To M^r Massie," I said quite fearlessly, as I used; – "Wretch"! was his ejaculation. "You are right now," said I; "You have called me that until you have made me one"!⁵² My heart felt breaking when I awoke! Oh! I never shall be happy in this world – never!

[93] 1st of April – Monday – Yesterday we had our usual number of friends to dinner, viz: Mess^{rs} Dry, Clarke, G. FitzRoy, & Thompson; D^r Hadley, and Captain Deering. Saturday too, Mess^{rs} Dry & Clarke dined with us. I'm not certain whether I have described the gentleman who is at present staying with us; but if I have not, I must here say that he is a most agreeable person, & I am very glad so nice & gentlemanly a man is in the house.

The Governor & M^r Clarke are gone today to Campbell Town for the purpose of hunting with M^r Lord's hounds.

Captain & M^r FitzRoy called today; the former is much better looking than his brother, to my taste.

M^r & M^{rs} Curll were here this evening, and amused M^r Thompson very much in their different ways.

⁵¹ Above the phrase "all are self" the same pencilled hand has written "is incorrect as regards all."

⁵² Above "made me one", "incorrect again" is written, very faintly, in pencil in the same hand as the previous noted comments.

We all called this morning on M^{rs} & Miss D'Arch. Tomorrow night the Dance at the Mess takes place. [94] The town was quite busy with Belles today.

3rd Wednesday. We had a delightful party at the Mess last night, altho' I did not enjoy myself, owing to a feeling of such intense fatigue and misery. There were a greater number of persons, and not nearly as choice as the first ones given by the 99th; I shall go to no more.

This morning Miss Buckland, Misses Schaw, Burgess & Scott called; M^r Thompson was here all the morning, so saw them. I do like him so much, & I think he likes me too, a little; He says when I smile, I am like an old friend of his; & not in the least like William. He & I came home at ½ past 1 o'clock, & sat until 2, on the hall table, chatting about the party. W.C. did not come home until 4 o'clock this morning.

I drove into town with M^{rs} Curll, and on my way home, met D^r [95] & M^{rs} Dawson coming into town: they both look tired & not very well.

A most absurd story was told me tonight of M^{rs} Curll; she is in an interesting state, and continually takes "fancies" into her head. One day she asks M^r Gaynor for ducks; another, she requests M^r Smith for his own peace of mind' sake not to forget some walnuts; then she will go to M^{rs} Hortz' and bring away grapes, etc – & the same here with jam & all kinds of things. But today she was walking to the flower show, when she saw a little sucking pig, and immediately said she would "so like a piece of roast pig"! so a gentleman of a party went in and bought it, and had it cooked at Webb's & sent up to her house for her dinner! The cause of all these whims is a mere shadow himself; only an idea left of him; very little reality, indeed, but he cares for nothing about it, so long as he has not to pay for any of the expense. [96] Miss Ross was at the Ball; she is a pretty girl, without having ladylike expression or manner: She talked away to D^r Hadley without the slightest introduction, and so far proved herself Colonial. She only heard of her brother's death some few days ago, but she seemed very merry for all that; the same after her sister's sudden death too!

On my return from riding, I received a long letter from M^r Baxter, written in most affectionate terms; he must surely be very wretched, when he condescends to solicit my return to Yambuck.

I may be, and am, singular in many respects, and this is one of the many = I never could, or would, subject myself for "filthy lucre", to the endearments of a man whom I despise – & loath! And I have once more told him so.

[97] 4th Thursday –Another day has passed! Oh! all this day I've felt so unhappy; I cannot bear up against my melancholy forebodings any longer! – My very soul yearns for quiet and

solitude. Little do people think that my “merry” face as they term it, is covered with tears so often: – how few could understand me! ~ ~

I’ll not dwell on these miseries.

This morning M^{rs} Curll came, and the Misses Sorell & she went with me to M^r Brown’s, where we had our faces beautified.

D^r Hadley called early to pay William some money, and came to us at M^r Brown’s, after paying a visit to M^{rs} Dawson. He then went to Webb’s, where he treated us to all kinds of nice things; and then brought me home. M^r Dry came up with us, but left soon after. William dined with him.

[98] M^r Thompson rode Dr Hadley’s mare, and we went to hear the Band of the “Meander”⁵³ play in the Government Gardens. After that was over, we had a gallop up the hill into the bush.

M^r Thompson dined at Captⁿ Kay’s, and came home with William at ½ past 9 o’clock.

I was alone this evening; and I must not expect to see D^r Hadley here until after the “Meander” sails, as he only comes here when he can go nowhere else! Rather complimentary!

Tomorrow Miss Sorell dines with us; and M^{rs} Chapman gives her Ball. M^{rs} Burgess gave a party tonight.

And now, it being past 12 o’clock, I shall retire to bed – and May God forgive me my sins! – 5th Friday. M^{rs} Curll called this morning, and I drove her as far as Antill Street, on my way to see M^{rs} Dawson; when she got out, M^r Thompson drove. [99] We found M^{rs} Dawson at home, looking very well. D^r Dawson called this morning, and sat some time, and asked us to dine with them on Sunday.

In the afternoon M^r Thompson, Louis, & I rode to see the 99th firing in the Domain; and then we continued our ride round the Domain.

Miss Sorell dined with us; and M^r & M^{rs} Frazer, M^r & M^{rs} Curll, Miss Buckland, and D^r Hadley came. M^{rs} Chapman gives her ball.

Our friends left at ½ past 11 o’clock; and then we sat talking until late = but after I left the Drawing Room, the two gentlemen kept it up quite late. Poor D^r Hadley appeared ill this evening; and fell asleep twice.

6th Saturday. I called on M^{rs} Mason this morning, and sat some little time. D^r Hadley came in at 12 to see W.C. about some money matter. Whilst we were at luncheon, M^{rs} Curll came in,

⁵³ Pencilled above Meander is “aeander” in the same hand as before.

and joined our party.[100] Immediately after luncheon, we (M^r Thompson, D^r Hadley & I) rode up to “the Springs”; and returned in time for dinner at ½ past 6 o’clock. M^r Dry & D^r Hadley dined with us. W.C. left with M^r Dry; & I sat until late talking to M^r Thompson, whom I like very much. Indeed I do wish that I did not like him as well, as I shall miss him so much when he leaves.

7th Sunday. Oh! to say that I’m fatigued would be trifling! I’m in pain in mind & body! And I merely went to D^r Dawson’s this evening, to convince M^r Thompson that I am [not] so extremely obstinate as he seems to think. After coming home, W.C. went into town with D^r Hadley and Captain Wynyard; and we sat up until close upon 12 o’clock. I was so sorry to see M^r Thompson suffering, from what I but too often feel. He is [101] such a winning, kind person, that I almost begin to think D^r Hadley was right when he said “Don’t fall in love with the Parson”! At all events, he is safe enough in the matter.

I did not go to Church today, I was in so much pain. Miss Buckland sat with me for some time this afternoon; and M^r Clarke too. Captain Deering & M^r ~~Thompson~~ Johnston called in for a short time before dinner.

How much I always feel anybody’s kindness; and how sadly I feel the want of a person to be continually with & near me; to be to me a friend indeed. My life is such a blank; my existence so blighted; that I feel as tho’ I were *une de trop*⁵⁴ in the world.

This evening I was vexed with Captain Wynyard for intending his remarks on scriptural subjects: it was such bad taste, especially with a clergyman in the room. [102] I can joke on any other subject in the World, but religion; & this is too grave a matter altogether. 8th Monday. I did not leave the house until ½ past 3 o’clock today; and then we rode to M^r Bicheno’s and back. On our way home, we espied M^{rs} Dawson, Miss Allport, & M^r Fitz Roy; so we waited for them at the lane; after which we all rode home in company, with the addition of D^r Dawson & Miss Scott.

W.C. dined at M^r J. Dunn’s this evening, and M^r Thompson & I had a tête à tête⁵⁵ dinner. I’m sure he must have felt it dull, altho’ he amiably kept awake & chatting until very nearly 12 o’clock. He thinks me a queer creature I’m ~~certain~~ certain, for I feel so intimate with him upon so short an acquaintance. His face gives me the idea of a man of intense feeling; [103] his mouth, in particular, is expressive; and I feel as tho’, to him, I could confide, say all – I’ve so long wished (but been too proud) to tell. I shall be almost glad when he goes, for I do not wish to love anybody. How much he reminds me of poor Captⁿ O’Hara; and this in itself, is

⁵⁴One too many (French).

⁵⁵Intimate (French).

enough to make me like him. – I’m glad he’s going soon. What unaccountable things occur in one’s life.

9th Tuesday. I have promised to show the contents of this volume during the last fortnight, and so the ill must be excused, if there be any in it. I dare not look thro’ it again, else I might feel inclined to break my word. I cannot write until tomorrow, as I feel that I may possibly place myself in the power of a man – which I never have yet done! – So, I shall write tomorrow, instead of tonight.

[104] 10th Wednesday – I might almost say, Thursday, as it is past midnight; and say what we will, there is something very “witching in the hour”. I always feel more confiding – more fond – more inclined to love, as the day sinks! – Poor me! ’tis only inclination – and I may never indulge in reality.

But to return to every-day events. I showed my book, and I’ve not been reminded of its disagreeable contents; & only a little quizzed on the remainder. M^r Thompson has passed the whole of the day with me, with the exception of dining on board the “Maeander”; but so good then, to leave at 10 o’clock. He is different to all that I’ve met here; he is not for continually running out, and remaining, but really seems to wish for my company; and this in itself is flattering: yet [105] it may be his disposition to be quiet, altho’ his mouth says differently. I may say I never liked any one so much, on so short an acquaintance.

M^{rs} Curll came this morning, and I promised to take her to see the Races tomorrow. She is a queer little body; and asks me the most matronly questions; the answers to which I make a “flying leap” at! This is to be, at all events; when an heir is born to the house of Curll, I am to be requested as Godmama. She said to me “Why are you glad you have no children”? I turned the conversation, as she never would have understood my real reason, had I told her. We went to the Races, and I saw “Swordsman” win very prettily, the Town Plate. He is a sweet horse, & in excellent condition. [106] I was introduced to Captain Keppel, and immediately asked him to remain here for the Government Ball; this, he assured me was out of his power; yet I fancied he meant to change his mind.

11th Thursday. Another night I’ve sat up so late, and yet our Guest is still in the Drawing room, instead of going to bed.

This morning, soon after breakfast, we went to M^r E. Bedford’s to gather flowers; M^{rs} Curll sent Louis in for me, to say she was waiting, and I found her at the Gate. She could not go to the Races with me, as M^r Curll had promised for her to go in a boat: so tomorrow she goes instead. William rode Zoë, and M^r Thompson ^{took} me to the Course, and home again.

The Maeander is to remain here until this day week, and I am so glad of it! I shall go to the Ball now, which I had not intended doing. [107] I think there were more persons on the Course today, than yesterday; and some of the races were very exciting. Mess^{rs} Gregson & Dry rode; & the former won the “Ladies Purse”.

I’ve been in some pain all day, & yet I sit here writing!

W.C. dined with us, and then went out to ramble about. He leads a sad life.

D^r Hadley came in very early after dinner, & sat until after 10 o’clock. I was out of temper with him rather, and M^r Thompson said I was wrong, so I must be. It was about inviting M^r Rose to the Mess, to dinner; & I still think he has a business to bring such men to his Mess, to associate with gentlemen. We differ.

The Pic-Nic is agreed upon for Saturday, & Loring’s paddock, the spot of rendezvous.

[108]14th Sunday morning. Positively my time has been so fully occupied, that I’ve scarcely any left for myself & Journal. When I think sometimes of the hours that we pass in sleep, I wish it were possible to devote some of them at least, to more useful purposes! then again, how queer we should feel without it; so I, like the rest of Mortals, must do ~~f~~ as they do.

On Friday we went to the Races, taking M^{rs} Curll with us; William drove, and M^r Thompson & I sat behind. The Course was famously attended, and his Excellency & Lady Denison were there: the former of these, presented the “Queen’s Plate” to M^r Rose, on his beautiful Mare “Shadow” winning it, against poor “Swordsman”. I was so sorry to see the pretty favorite lose again; but it convinces me more than ever, that the ideal is more to be feared than the reality – nine cases out of ten.

[109] William dined with us, and we went in the evening, to M^{rs} Burgess’, where I enjoyed myself more than I have done for many a day, (or night, I should say!) and danced away with almost, pleasure. Captain Deering, M^r Thompson & I came home soon after Supper; and we two, of the house, sat up until past 3 o’clock.

Yesterday we had a most delightful Pic-Nic in Loring’s paddock; there were 47 persons there, besides quantities of “blue jackets” belonging to the Maeander; and the Band of that Vessel too, which greatly added to the gaiety of the scene. The men had flat races, and a hurdle race; the gentlemen had a foot race too. Then there was singing from M^r Taafe, and Captain Twiss; and the latter told a very comical scotch story extremely well. He possesses a fund of anecdote & wit, and is really entertaining. [110] The last part of the entertainment, was not by any means the least; we danced, *sur le gazon*.⁵⁶ M^r Thompson actually ventured on the Polka!

⁵⁶ On the lawn (French).

and were it not that he says he never did commit such an act previously to this, I should say he was an adept in it. He turns round the wrong way beautifully; and this, in itself is a study.

All things must end; and we returned home in time to see our way. M^r Taafe came in the carriage, and M^r Thompson drove; William walking off with Miss Augusta Sorell and the Opossum rug! He, Mess^{rs} Thompson, Taafe, and D^r Hadley, dined with M^r E. Bedford; but returned at ½ past 9. I had been working, and finding that I was drooping my eyelids too much, I quietly drew the chair to the fire, and slept! How exceedingly unromantic!

On Thursday, by the bye, both bands attended the Race Course, [111] and I liked the Naval one so much better than the first day I heard them. Yesterday they played the Polkas so nicely, and altogether they do credit to their Ship.

William went off last evening to the “happy family”, and he has just come in. On dit, he passes the first part of the evening with the Mistresses, and the latter with their Maid! Such is the state of civilized society! The March of intellect, is far before that of Delicacy & Reason. I suppose tho’ ’twould not do for me to differ with men of the World, who have seen so much more than I have, or ever shall; (happily for me!) Yet I cannot in several ways, quite agree with them! I cannot imagine it *comme il faut*;⁵⁷ for instance, to go and make love to the House of Lords & House of Commons, at one and the same time! (Altho’ in both by the way, ’tis mere speaking –) Then again, inviting all kinds of low persons [112] to a Military Mess, where none but gentlemen are intended to go! Encore; they tell me that Hospitality is Barbarous; Modesty, – Prudery! I see, & hear these things; – and the iron enters my soul! I wonder at persons calling themselves civilized Christians can condescend to become equal to the “Brutes that perish”. – I’ll shut this up, or I cannot stay my pen.

Oh! I had such a delightful letter from M^r Massie; and how strange it seems, after so long getting over his penchant for my noble self, he, from one little word of M^r de Winton, rushes headlong into it again.

20th Saturday Night. Only a week has passed, and I’ve not written in this book! I must take up my story where I left off, and say that on Sunday last W.C. dined, *en déshabille*,⁵⁸ at Government House; and then went with his Excellency & some other gentlemen down the Harbour, in the Steamer, to shoot. I had Mess^{rs} Dry, Thompson, Clarke; D^r Hadley & Captain Deering to dine with me. They all left before Eleven.

Monday was a very wet day, and we did not move out of doors.

⁵⁷ Properly (French).

⁵⁸ Casually dressed (French).

Tuesday morning I got into a Cab with D^r Hadley & M^r Thompson, and we called on M^{rs} Dawson. We then went into town to shop; & then home.

In the evening I had some friends, and Captain Keppell kindly lent me 5 of his pretty band. They played so nicely, and the good folks seemed so contented, until nearly 3 o'clock, when they left. Poor William was not home.

On Wednesday morning M^r Thompson drove me to call on M^r Dawson, M^{rs} Burgess & into town. We met Captain Keppell, who had been calling on me, with M^r Taaffe. I had promised to give him a lesson in the Polka in the morning; & had quite forgotten it when the time came.

[114] Oh! I had nearly forgotten to mention the very delightful Pic-Nic given by Captⁿ Keppell – the officers⁵⁹ of the Maeander. We went out at 2 o'clock to the Regatta ground, and there found numbers of persons collected; The Shed, commonly used for vegetables and such-like, was beautifully fitted out by the assistance of soldiers & Sailors; a most excellent collation was spread at the upper end of the room, & before dinner commenced, we stood up in a set of Quadrilles, played with considerable spirit. Polkas were chased by Gallopes; and Quadrilles, Schottische, all were danced with so much glee. Captain Keppell too, dear, kind little man, granted our request to remain until today, & so all appeared quite happy! It was a delightful party, truly.

[113]* As there were but 4 or 5 chairs in the room, straw was introduced for seats; and it caused considerable witticism & amusement. D^r Dawson, for instance, said that he had never seen so many ladies together, in the straw! M^r Taaffe said, for his part he had lain beside most of the ladies in Hobart Town!

D^r Hadley, M^r & M^{rs} Curll, M^r Thompson & I came home at 8 o'clock in a Cab. William did not return home until past Eight, on Wednesday night; just as I was going to dress for the Ball at Government House. Sir W. Denison & M^r Fleming came back in the morning: but the rest of their party, consisting of Mess^{rs} Deas Thompson & Denison; Captⁿ Wynyard & W.C. had to ride about 40 miles, thro' a disagreeable misty rain.

We started for Government House at a little before 10, and upon our arrival there, M^r Thompson in getting out of the [114]* carriage, fell back on the ground, and rent his garments! So he had to come home & get them repaired; but soon returned, and I was so glad

⁵⁹ “the officers” has been enclosed in parenthesis and “but not” has been written as superscript before “the” – all emendations are in pencil. The handwriting is the same as for textual additions referred to in previous notes.

to see his cheerful, gentlemanly face in the throng. I danced a good deal during the evening; and our Guest danced with no one else.

The room is finished, and looks beautifully; the proportions are so good, and it was well lighted. I do'nt understand exactly why, but I never did, off the Stage, see Ladies legs to such perfection as in that room! The knees were nothing! = you might see far above them! and to do them justice, some of them had far from bad ones! – I remarked to D^r Dawson how very nicely M^{rs} Frazer's "frilled legs" looked; "like a little Bantam", said I. "Yes! but I can see as high of the little Bantam as where it sits;" said he.

M^r Thompson brought me home soon after Supper; & W.C. did not return until past 4 o'clock.

[115] On Thursday we went out to see a sham fight; it was between the crew of the Maeander, and the 99th. Hobart Town turned out! The number of persons at the Races, was nothing to the crowd assembled in the Domain.

M^r Thompson drove me there; & we went up to where D^r Dawson's Carriage was posted, took Peter out, & after remaining a short time in the carriage with M^{rs} Dawson, M^r Thompson & I walked over to the Point. He humoured me quite as much, if not more, than any person I ever knew; and is evidently fond of being with & near me. Poor fellow! he is gone – and we may never meet again; altho' he declared 'twas the only thing he looked forward to.

After we had seen all the fun, we drove up to M^{rs} Roberts', and then home; first tho' by the way, taking up M^{rs} Frazer & M^{rs} Stonor: and meeting [116] on the road, D^r Hadley actually walking with Miss M. Scott, Miss Burgess, and M^r Taaffe!

W.C. dined with us, but went to D^r MacWharrie's afterwards, & M^r Thompson & I sat up very late.

On Friday we had a ride round the Domain, and in the evening went to the Council Chamber, to a Ball given by Mess^{rs} Taaffe, Fitz-Roy, Blogham Maclean & Captain Fitz-Roy. It was a most agreeable party, and the two Bands attending, made it go off with spirit.

I was tired; & it being the last night of the Maeander stay, I consented to come home soon after Supper, as my friend said "Oh! you don't want to stay; so do come and talk"!!⁶⁰

W.C. did not return until nearly 5 o'clock; and he was in bed when our fascinating & amiable Guest left us this morning. I never was so sorry to say "Au revoir", to any one, as I was to him! I am become quite fond of seeing his mild face; & his kind eyes riveted on me. [117] He left at ½ past 10 o'clock, and he need not have done so until Midi, at the least.

⁶⁰ In pencil above this paragraph is written "not quite correct as P. said do you not think we had better go home" (P., short for Pet, was Josiah Thompson's familiar name for AB).

When I was shaking Captain Keppell's hand last night, saying adieu; he said "You'll not forget the old Maeander"? "That I shall not; or Captain Keppell"! I returned – "And I'll be hanged if some of us ever forget you" – he retorted, so warmly. And I never shall forget the Maeander & two of it's Officers.

I had a letter from M^r Flower this morning; in it he speaks of M^{rs} Connolly's having left her husband; & people do say, eloped with M^r Molesworth Green! Poor little woman; everybody nearly will blame her – & nobody pity her.

How scandalized Miss Brown will feel, when she always thought that she was the attraction to M^r Green, in that quarter.

[118] 21st Sunday. How I do miss M^r Thompson; & it is the first person whom I ever wished to remain, who could not! We rode out yesterday to see the Ship going out, and she looked so well! M^r Clarke who dined with us today, said "There was a glass on board, scarcely ever taken from the eye – and facing the direction of your house; poor Thompson! they say he is quite a different man from when he came here"!

M^r Dry dined with us last night, and tonight; D^r Hadley & Captⁿ Deering likewise.

I took the children to Church in the afternoon, & Mess^{rs} Nunn & MacDonald walked with me after Miss Burnett left me.

On Wednesday I called with M^{rs} Curll, on M^{rs} J. Burnett, M^{rs} C. Wilmott, & the Misses Burnett.

I've begun "Roland Cashel" = & intend to devote myself to reading & work now. I don't think I shall go to any more Balls.

[119] The wind blows very stormily occasionally; Godgrant our friends safety! I never took an interest in the Sea before; now I shall indeed.

D^{rs} Hadley, MacWharrie & M^r Dry sat a long time with me today.

22nd Monday. – I should almost say, Tuesday, for it is long past midnight.

The morning was spent by me in a most satisfactory manner, viz. with the children, and in work. M^{rs} Dawson & Miss Scott called about 12 o'clock, & W.C. who had just come in & dressed himself, went down into town with them.

D^r Hadley, Louis, and I went for a ride at ½ past 2, and the former & I looked at Glover's paintings. Three of them are beautiful. We rode nearly to Risden Ferry, & then returned. M^{rs} Frazer & M^r Clarke came soon after to dinner.

[120] In the evening Misses Buckland, Scott, Sorell; & D^r & M^{rs} Dawson & D^r Hadley came. They have only just gone. They tell me I look ill, and thoughtful; & M^{rs} Dawson said very

quaintly, “Now, tell me; are you really fretting after the agreeable Parson”? I said I never spoke the untruth, and I did indeed feel his absence.

There was a large fire near Boa Vista, if not actually there; it blazed up in earnest. W.C. is gone for the night to M^r Clarke’s!

A very amusing anecdote took place at M^{rs} Burgess’ the other evening; M^r H. Anstey was sitting in an open window with M^{rs} Hall, and he commenced pinching her; whereupon she became indignant, and moved to the other side of the room. W.C. who saw this, upon meeting the gentleman next day in the street, told him he ought to be more careful where he sat, when he did such things! [121] At first he started, & seemed ashamed; but afterwards, he burst out laughing, & said “Yes! was it not fun? “It’s very strange tho’; before she married, she let me pinch her anywhere! But now, she will not let me touch her”!! Colonial! ——

23rd Friday. W.C. slept at M^r Clarke’s, and returned home this morning a little before 12 – D^{rs} Dawson & Hadley called; and after they left, W.C. drove me into town, & to call on M^{rs} Russell.

She is the second daughter of Sir J. Jamieson; not actually pretty, yet having a youthful look, which is very pleasing. Laughs desperately; & grumbles wofully [sic] about the place.

I called on M^{rs} C. Wilmott, & then came home, notwithstanding D^r MacWharrie’s invite to go & eat bread & honey with him.

D^r Hadley came in as I did; and we went for an early gallop on the sands.

[122] M^r & M^{rs} Stewart & D^r MacWharrie dined with us; & after the rest had gone, the latter talked to me of what “people said”, about M^r Thompson, D^r Hadley & I. ’Twas very amusing.

The wind is howling so loudly tonight; how I trust the Maeander is safe in Sydney!

Miss Buckland called this morning, & explained her side of the story.

Had a letter from M^{rs} Chiene, containing some commissions for her.

24th Wednesday. In the morning I went into town to execute M^{rs} Chiene’s commissions; and W.C. left me at Kisson’s, to walk home. I was so tired when I got here, that I fairly cried with it.

I could not go for a ride, & was recompensed by receiving two long letters from Mess^{rs} Massie & Brown. The former is not coming here, he has not money enough to pay for the trip! [123] He writes in a most amusing manner, & as he very truly says “tells me everything”. If he only has the luck to fall in with the Maeander folks in Sydney, I pity any of them – or rather one of them; for he will ask all kinds of questions; but he will find a ready listener in M^r Thompson.

Tom's is a long letter; he narrates in long, and not very charitable terms, poor little M^{rs} Connolly's down-fall! He seems to think that because the one sister has disgraced herself, the man is safe who has not married into the family! But he forgets that there is always one black sheep in a flock.

It appears that upon M^r Connolly's seeing M^r Green close to M^{rs} Connolly's bed-room window he accused her of too great an intimacy with the young gentleman – and she confessed it! [124] It may be very wrong to confess these things; yet for my part, I admire her truthfulness. Mess^{rs} Rutledge & Baxter were indignant beyond measure; and ~~that~~ the latter declared “that if such men were allowed to go about the country, no one would be safe”! I suppose he thinks that nobody knows of his doings in this way! –

M^r Lang is in love with Miss Bennett; & therein shows his good taste.

M^r Frazer, Captⁿ & M^{rs} Booth, M^{rs} Curll, Miss Priaulx, D^r Hadley & M^r Dry called today.

Miss Buckland came in whilst we were at dinner, and remained until 10 o'clock.

25th Thursday. W.C. left at 9 this morning; it has been such a stormy day, & the Mountain is covered with snow, which by the Moonlight just now, looks very beautiful.

D^r Hadley remained here all the afternoon, [125] as it was too wet to venture out to ride; & he read “Roland Cashel” to me.

M^r Frazer sat some time with me; & asked us to dine with them on Monday next.

Captain Pratt called. How much I do miss M^r Thompson[’s] kind face & voice! I shall be so glad to meet him again. I wonder if the Maeander is in Sydney, or about to sail for Auckland?

I've copied a Polka this evening; read; worked, and now it is very late – so I must close this. I sent M^{rs} Chiene a box, and wrote to her, and Maria; so I begin to think I can find time for everything.

26th Friday. My first employment after “lessons” were over, was to pay Ellen a visit; she was in bed with a feverish attack, and unable to do anything for herself; so I made her some arrowroot. [126] I said to her husband, “Well Hides, I don't [think] she [will] die this time, and put you to the expense of getting another wife to nurse baby”! To which he replied in the most grave manner, “I should never get so good a one again”! So much for love in a humble way! –

We went out for a ride, and to visit M^{rs} Roberts; she looked quite plain & common; how William can fancy her good-looking, I cannot conceive. He told Miss Buckland that when he was dancing with M^{rs} Roberts at the Government House, the other evening, he said “Well, after looking thro' them all, I mean to say my sister is the prettiest woman here”! Wonderful! I never imagined for an instant that he thought me more than passable!

D^r Hadley dined with me. We called on our way home, to see M^{rs} Pratt and M^{rs} de Winton; the latter says that her husband will be back in [127] the May Steamer; and I quite long for letters by him, from my friends at present in Sydney.

I must get Crockford's likeness framed.

27th Saturday. We have an invitation to dine at M^r Frazer's on Monday, which I have declined for myself; I said the weather was too uncertain to venture out at night, but positively it is my wish not to go anywhere. I shall not say anything about my not going to Government House on the 24th – else, so many would commence persuading me, etc – but I shall remain at home, and write. What a delightful thing it is to be able to communicate one's thoughts & wishes to those afar! altho' our feelings cannot be fully expressed at those times.

I dreamt of M^r Thompson last night; I thought he was angry with me = and justly so, if the waking acts be considered!

[128] It is such a wretched day! poor William can have very little pleasure in his shooting trip.

Just now a poor woman passed in the pelting rain, with her dress turned up, (to prevent, I suppose, it's being spoiled,) and her petticoat thoroughly wet! It was such a picture of Misery! & I fancied myself in such a plight – and turned a grateful heart to my good Creator! We are told He cares for us all, tho' we be very transgressing. Alas! it is my only hope. – 30th Tuesday. William is not home yet; nor will he be I believe, until Thursday.

Tonight I've finished two long letters – one to M^r Massie; the other to Mess^{rs} Halford's care. On Sunday I went with the children to church; & Miss Buckland came with us. Captⁿ Deering & D^r Hadley dined with me; and Miss Buckland came in the evening.

[129] This afternoon D^r Hadley kindly [drove] me out, as I was too ill to ride; my head felt distracted. We called on M^{rs} Pratt; and the children had such a run in the Verandah during the time we were chatting in-doors. We then went up to M^{rs} Dawson's, and met them on the road going home. I asked M^{rs} Dawson & the Misses Scott to come and eat oysters tomorrow for luncheon.

D^{rs} MacWharrie & Hadley passed the evening with me, & did not leave until nearly 12 o'clock.

Wednesday. 1st of May.

After the children had said their lessons, M^r Dry called; & I put on my bonnet & went to see how Emily Priaulx was; & then to M^{rs} F. Smith's: I called on the latter person to know if her son had returned, as I heard the "Corsair" was in. She knew nothing of it; and whilst I was sitting there, in came the gentleman himself; so I hurried home to see my Wanderer!

[130] My Dry called twice, and at last found W.C. at home; D^r Hadley called, & went up to see him: and whilst they were here, M^{rs} Dawson & the Misses Scott came to luncheon with me. I gave them oysters; = & M^{rs} Dawson declares that she can now pass an oyster shop with impunity. D^r Hadley left then, & called again in the afternoon. W.C. drove M^{rs} Dawson & friends into town; and brought the carriage back for me, when I drove out with the children to Captⁿ Twiss', and then to meet Miss Buckland, and brought her home.

W.C. very kindly dined at M^r Dry's, altho' he had been away some days. D^r Hadley passed an hour in the evening with me.

2nd Thursday. W.C. slept at M^r Dry's last night, & has sent me word he will do so tonight too.

[131] The Hounds threw off today at Richmond, the first day this Season. Everybody went; but I do'nt know if everybody came back, as I've seen Nobody to tell me.

Miss Buckland passed the evening with me.

I went down immediately after lessons, to see, & sit an hour with Miss Burnett. She did not, until I told her, believe Major Ainslie was married! It has thrown such a cloud over her existence! Poor thing; she says she now feels truly alone in the World; that altho' they had been eleven long years engaged & separated – still she thought he cared for her, and that was her only wish & hope. I was so grieved to see her thus.

M^{rs} Chiene wrote me such a comical note, and says she is thinking of getting M^r Baxter to sue for a Divorce; & wonders, when free, whether I shall marry the Chaplain or the Doctor? [132] At all events, I don't think a hunt, and hunt dinner, would have kept the former of these two from coming to see me! I wonder where he is now, nice, agreeable man that he is!

I quite long to see M^r de Winton.

Reading Dunallan, by Grace Kennedy.

I've not been out today, it has been too windy; (I mean to ride –) and my face too, is swollen so much with this gathering.

Finished one side of my waistcoat.

3rd Friday. I passed such a sleepless night; for I have such a sad sore on my face!

D^r Hadley came just before luncheon, and stayed until after 5 o'clock, it raining quite hard, all the time. W.C. came home a little before 11 o'clock, dressed himself in regimentals, and went to the Barracks to a Court Martial.

M^r Sharland & his two boys came to luncheon; and the children [133] remained until past nine, their Papa (who dined with D^r Hadley) coming for them, to go to the Ship Inn.

M^r Dry dined with us, & walked down with W.C. and M^r Sharland. He had a fall at the hunt yesterday, and has hurt his eye.

I've just answered the invitations to Government House, on the 24th inst.; W.C. goes, and I do not.

4th Saturday. William came home this morning, just as M^{rs} Dawson & the Misses Scott were coming in to see me. Miss Scott brought me a pretty scent bag, worked in floss silks; and the figure of St Augustin on it. 'Twas her Fillippa! They all walked into town, and soon after, M^{rs} Curll came in. She sat until D^r Hadley came, and then, (as he said he would open the carbuncle on my face,) she went off. She had a small shirt with her; and was anxious to know if those that she was [134] about to make, would not do made of calico! Poor child! it would be scrubbed!

My face was very painful, and it made me very faint, but I soon got over it. D^r Hadley left at ½ past one; & just called in again, on his way past at Three o'clock: he came this evening too for a short time, & then walked off to M^r Dry's with William – cigars, I presume, being over balanced for my society. Well! I do wish I were not always left to myself in the evening = for I think so miserably then.

M^r Clarke was sitting with me nearly an hour before dinner; he made me smile once, by saying in answer to a question of mine, "How it was that he allowed Captⁿ Collinson to go & make love to Miss Sorell"? "Oh! he comes in a winner of the second heat"! – "And you Monsieur, the first"! I retorted. – We both laughed, & he said he hoped I did not at all misinterpret his meaning?

[135] I am to have his chestnut Mare for the winter.

Maria wrote me an affectionate letter today; & in it, seems to be miserable about Tom.

I wrote to M^{rs} Schaw, to ask the Major & his daughters to come here & sleep on the 24th inst.

W.C. drove M^r J. Burnett down the Brown's River road to shoot; & returned at 6 o'clock.

And now to bed; it's very late.

6th Monday. I did not go to church yesterday, and the poor children got into sad disgrace, & their Papa sent them both to bed.

My face was what D^r Hadley calls "just touched with a lancet"! and which is very painful & sickening. D^r Dawson & Miss Buckland called. Mess^{rs} Denison, Dry, Clarke – Captⁿ Deering & D^r Hadley dined with us. They all made themselves very agreeable.

[136] Today W.C. M^r Dry, D^r Hadley – Louis & D^r MacWharrie (part of the way) rode with me; I tried M^r Clarke's Mare, and she is so gentle & easy. I'm sure she will be a pet of mine.

W.C. dined with M^r J. Burnett, to meet M^r Burnett and M^r Dry. D^r Hadley passed the evening with me, and was in such a queer humour! he is a gentlemanly, delightful person.

I had a chat with M^{rs} Agnew, who seems pretty well after her chloroform accouchement; her baby too, looks well = & is to have the beautiful name of “Florence Stuart”.

7th Tuesday. I received a delightful letter from M^r Massie, in which he acknowledges the receipt of my “cold note”; as he is pleased to term it. I trust he will approve more of my second!

Went to call on M^{rs} Frazer and she kept Annie, until the afternoon, when she & M^{rs} Stonor brought her home.

[137] M^{rs} Curll drove down with William & I into town, & I brought M^{rs} Chiene’s Victornies, and sent them by M^r Isdale this evening.

Louis & I rode on the Brown’s River road, and on our return met D^r Hadley, who came home with us. I like the Mare so much.

Miss Buckland passed the evening with me; W.C. dined at Mess. We called on M^{rs} Pratt this morning.

The funniest thing tho’ that has occurred to me today, was M^{rs} Curll sending over Hannah to get some small clothes that I said I had for her, perhaps; and at the same time hinting that if I had any old sheets, tablecloths, etc to give away, they would be acceptable to her, for her child! etc — —

It appears M^r Berrison was anything but pleased when his wife [138] presented him with a son & heir; and maintained in most stentorian tongue, that it could be no child of his! Could it possibly be another’s? Are we to suppose that any young girl can be seduced by one man, and then, (owing to her guilty situation) allow the embraces of another? Oh! I wo’nt credit so much depravity.

8th Wednesday. My morning was employed much as usual, until 12 o’clock; I then took Annie with me into the Drawing room, and we were working very busily when the Misses Sorell came.

W.C. came in soon after, and I never heard any person’s language alter as his did, to these two ladies. Their’s too, was perfect slang!

M^r Arnold was entreated by his friend Captⁿ Collinson, to postpone his marriage until his appointment was confirmed from home; he [139] said “Very well, I will until the Marmion (expected daily) arrives; but after that I must get married — I can wait no longer”! — —

I hope he may never live to repent.

We hear such dis-agreeable things of the “old Maeander”; that she had such a bad trip up to Sydney; that she is ordered off to “Musquitoe Coast Shore” – and she is likely there, to see some fighting.

We rode in the afternoon; & Captⁿ Twiss accompanied us round the Domain, and then to his house to call on M^{rs} Ferryday = (I don’t know how she spells her name, I’m sure!) We had been asked to go there this evening; but I declined – and went to say so.

After we left their house, we rode to meet D^r and M^{rs} Dawson on the Ridsen Road; the last time I was there, was in M^r Thompson’s company, & I missed his sweet smile, and amiable face very much.

[140] The good folks laugh at me for not going out this winter – and some are rash enough to say ’tis because M^r Thompson is not here! Perhaps they are not far wrong!

W.C. has been at Captⁿ Twiss’; and D^r Hadley here. Ah! I shall truly feel leaving this, my best, & dearest, friend here.

10th Friday. I yesterday morning wrote a long letter to Harriet by the “Adelaide”, and after lessons were over, William drove me into town; I, having previously, driven myself up to M^{rs} Dawson’s and M^{rs} Frazer’s – for the purpose of asking them all to come here in the evening. Captain & M^{rs} Twiss, M^{rs} Ferriday, & M^r Bedford dined with us; and in the evening the Dawsons, – Misses Scott and Buckland, Miss Sorell, M^r F. K. [141] Arnold, D^r Hadley, M^r Johnston; M^r & M^{rs} Frazer, Mess^{rs} Clarke & Akers; Captⁿ Collinson & M^r Dry, came. We were all enchanted with M^{rs} Ferriday’s, singing. She has a splendid voice; sings with exquisite taste; and so very unaffectedly – it is quite delightful! She of course, could not be asked to commence the singing; so poor I – was the Victim! but I knew it was only *comme il faut*⁶¹ to do so, and “to it” I went. Her first song was that too-beautiful thing “In che accendi”; – the last time I heard it was from Pasta.

She sang so much all the evening – and she & Miss Buckland sang a duetto from “Norma”. I don’t consider the latter’s voice lost in the least by comparison; – the two are so totally different. I felt vexed very much at W.C. once during the evening; Miss Buckland was singing, and he said quite [142] loud enough for everybody in the room to hear, “the great fault in her songs, is, that there are too many verses”.

I cannot endure anything like vulgarity!

⁶¹ Proper (French).

D^r Dawson & M^r Dry called this morning; the latter⁶² to tell me that his good wife would be unable to go for a ride with me today. So, I sent to ask Captain Pratt to accompany me, as I wished to go to O'Brien's Bridge with the hunting party.

D^r Hadley & I rode into Barracks at ½ past 2 o'clock; and Captⁿ Pratt, Mess^{rs} Johnston & Akers joined us, when we went at a pretty good pace to the Bridge. It rained a little, and my face being inclined to a sore, I find it much inflamed this evening.

D^r MacWharrie dined with me, & as we were both fatigued, he left at a little before 11 o'clock.

[143] 12th Sunday. William drove D^r Dawson & Captⁿ Deering up to New Norfolk on Friday; & today arrived in town, with Captⁿ Deering & M^r Clarke: D^r Dawson having returned by Coach yesterday.

My face has been so swollen & inflamed; and this evening D^r MacWharrie lanced it, rather too severely – for my beauty-sake!

Captain Pratt paid me a long visit yesterday; and today he came up into my room to see me. He is a dear old character!

M^{rs} Curll sent her compliments to know how I was? Hannah has ten times more feeling than her Mistress, and appeared quite sorry to see me so ill; M^{rs} Curll went into see Miss Priaulx, but never came near me! She may want my assistance some day; and then I shall – why give it to her, I suppose; for the poor little ignorant woman knows no better!

[144] I am too tired tonight to tell about my ride with the gentlemen on Friday – and how much I laughed!

This evening Mess^{rs} Johnston & Clarke; Capt^{ns} Deering & Collinson, & D^r Hadley dined here; I did not leave my room today; & D^r Hadley passed the evening with me until 10 o'clock.

I do quite long for the Steamer's arrival. Dear Marion has returned to Glen Duart, M^r Massie tells me.

Had invitations for Wednesday & Thursday; The first to M^{rs} Twiss'; the latter to dinner at Government House; but I refused them both, as I have done for the 24th inst:

I do not feel the least wish to go anywhere, now that the "Maeander" has left.

14th Tuesday. My face was so much better yesterday, that in the afternoon I accompanied

[145] D^{rs} Hadley, Dawson & M^{rs} Dawson, Miss Scott, William & Louis to the Ridsen Ferry.

⁶² The reference is to Dr Dawson [the former]. Mr Dry is not married.

I was so excessively tired, that I could scarcely move when once I sat down. W.C. dined with M^r Dry, so I sent them down my dinner. Dear D^r Hadley passed a long evening with me; I don't know what I should do without him. He says there will be an ugly scar on my temple; but I hope not.

M^{rs} Curll came yesterday morning to see me, and was talking consummate trash about so many things; all, no doubt retailed from "Hennrey dear"! She ended by saying "Ah! well, we have to visit people here, that we would not look at in England"! "Yes, indeed;" I said feelingly; – thinking of my having heard that her father kept some shop in England.

This morning M^{rs} Montgomery came up from Port Arthur, and [146] remained the day, and is here tonight. She is considerably stouter than when we last met; and altho' much older in appearance, is still a fine woman. She goes by the Steamer in the morning.

William dined at home, & Miss Buckland passed the evening here. She is to go with the gentlemen tomorrow evening to M^{rs} Twiss's.

My visitors today have been Mess^{rs} Dry, Akers, Clarke; D^{rs} MacWharrie & Hadley; & the latter walked up with me to M^{rs} Pratt's this afternoon.

No letters by the Shamrock, which came in on Saturday night.

16th Thursday – Nothing particular has occurred to note here; I went for my ride, as usual, and desperately tired I was last night.

The Soirée musicale took place at M^{rs} Twiss' last night; I did not go; and D^r Hadley [146] dined with me, and passed the evening. I took (or pretended to take) it as a compliment; but I knew very well, it was only the distance that made him not go.

At 9 o'clock, in came William, furious! M^r Clarke, who had dined with M^r Dry, and who promised to go with him to M^{rs} Twiss', when he found Miss Buckland of the party, would not accompany them! 'Twas to say the very least – a most ungentlemanly proceeding!

Presently, in came Miss Buckland, with her face rather red; and her bonnet set well off it: this latter occasioned by her having her "back hair" (as we term it) dressed. "Will you take me, Captⁿ Hadden"? said she = "Oh certainly" replied the ruffled soldier, "if your Mama sees no objection"! This retort was owing to the lady very properly stating she must [148] go and inform her maternal relative of the change in the party. Well! away they went; and at a little before Ten, up drove Edward in the Carriage, to my amazement; and upon my going out to see what was the matter, I found that W.C. had upset the vehicle, and in Edward's Irish parlance "They all come out, clean! Talk o' hoonting! By my sowl, 'tis nothin' at all, at all, to this oopsit! Och! and how Miss Buckland lept [sic] out – Music and all – Music and all"!

They say dear old Peter remained on the ground for a long time, without a kick or a struggle. He is a fine old fellow! The carriage is slightly the worse for the affray, having the one lamp smashed, & the cane work quite destroyed on one side. The shaft broken, but it was mended in time for the children to go to M^{rs} Twiss' to pass the day.

[149] 18th Saturday. On Thursday the party took place at Government House, and W.C. dined there. M^r Dry, who does not visit there, remained and read to me until ½ past Eleven = he came early, and brought his own book – a most interesting one, i.e. “the Memoirs of Ferdinand & Isabella, of Spain”.

Yesterday morning D^r Dawson sat some time with me, and vainly endeavoured to get me to go up to his house at ½ past 6, and eat Quail pie! I feel no wish to go to any place; I am thoroughly ill at heart. He had scarcely left when I despatched Jane with the children in a Cab, to M^{rs} Twiss' – there to spend the day. They were just gone, when in came Misses Scott, M. Walker, and Fanny Richardson; and again tried to get me to go up to M^{rs} Dawson's. [150] Next came D^r MacWharrie, and remained 2 hours & a ¼ by the clock; then D^r Hadley, who went off to see the men fire on the Beach. Then came W.C. who had a little singing, & went off on the chestnut mare, as I did not wish to go out.

M^{rs} Frazer sat some time with me; and said she thought the reason why I did not go to her house, was, that some persons were there, whom I did not wish to meet! The idea of such a thing to me, was ridiculous! but I recollected how she imagined the affair = it was because W.C. said before Miss M. Scott, “he was glad he had not been there, on account of meeting those vulgar persons, the Allports”! And she must have repeated it to M^{rs} Frazer.

[151] I received by post, a delightful letter from M^r Thompson, and several kind remembrances; a pretty book entitled “Wild Flowers”; two pairs of cuffs; a queer handkerchief; & 1 dozen pairs of silk gloves.

The Maeander did not remain any time in Sydney; & was unfortunate enough to lose a man overboard going from this.

D^r Hadley came again; M^r Frazer too. And before dinner I had Mess^{rs} Dry, Johnston, Clarke & D^r Hadley, sitting with me by the fire; when W.C. joined our party. They dined (D^r H. & W.) at D^r Dawson's; & immediately they left, I went up to see poor Hannah, and take her some arrowroot, and a lemon: she has had a slight feverish attack.

When I went, I rapped at the Dining room door, & then walked in. There sat M^{rs} Curll and the two Misses Priaulx, busy [152] making small shirts for the intended heir! M^r Curll stood with his back to the fire, airing himself, and reminded me much of Signor Mantalini,

only not half as good looking. It is shameful that such persons as he, should be allowed to wear shell-jackets!

The carriage went at 6 for the children; and at Ten for the elder ones. They both came here; but W.C. went on to M^r Dry's to sleep.

Today I've had my ride, and called on M^r Bicheno; the old gentleman was very glad to see us. Captain Deering & M^r Johnston rode some of the way with us, & as we returned, Mess^{rs} Dry & Gaynor overtook us, & came into town with us.

W.C. dined at home, & I think is sleeping here tonight.

[153] M^r & M^{rs} Sharland called this morning; & I sent her some arrowroot, chilies [sic] & cayenne pepper. They sleep here on Friday next. M^r Dry came & read a few chapters of his book today. D^r Hadley dines at M^r Stonor's; so we did not see him tonight.

19th Sunday. I passed such a bad night; and suffered so much from palpitation of the heart. I wrote long letters to M^{rs} W. Rutledge & Tom. In the afternoon, the children went for a walk with Jane, to see M^{rs} Roberts; and I accompanied D^r Hadley to see M^{rs} Curll & Miss Burnett. The latter I promised to go and sit with in the afternoon tomorrow.

Just before dinner, I had a note from Miss Buckland which I've answered.

On Wednesday there are Amateur theatricals; & she wishes to [154] know if I'm going, or whether that entertainment comes under my ban?

Captain Deering, M^r Clarke, and D^r Hadley dined with us; & we had such a snug little party. They left at ½ past 10 o'clock – and I'm going to see what a good sleep will do for me; So, “bon soir, mes amis”!

20th Monday. I've left D^{rs} MacWharrie and Hadley with W.C. drinking Whiskey toddy. The former of the gentlemen dined with us; and Miss Buckland brought in her work, and is only just gone.

I have been hard at work all day; and in the morning, M^r Dry came & read to me; and again after luncheon, & remained until 5 o'clock. We had only one interruption, & that was M^{rs} Curll's arrival = a thing I do'nt think I should have been troubled with, only she came for a stick W.C. had given her.

[155] D^r Hadley went to firing; so I had no ride.

There is such a good story going abroad, about 3 Delhi scarfs, which were sent from M^r George Ashburner to the Misses Sorell & Miss Kemp. And which have been quietly appropriated by M^{rs} & Miss Seccombe, and Miss R. Kemp! So much for the honesty of the Protestant branch of the “Happy family”. And the “Catholic”! Heigh ho! Mademoiselle, is to be married in a fortnight; and her second sister says, that she loves him quite as well as she

can ever love anybody; for “her heart is worn out”! (Advance sisterly love!) They are to live in a house near the Turnpike = so M^r Arnold will be saved that expense; (as will several others!) and they are to keep a small carriage.

[156] 21st Tuesday. D^r Dawson paid me a long visit this morning; & amused me by saying he had made up his mind not to go to the Theatre tomorrow night! He says he quite envies me making a resolve not ^{to} go out at night; & keeping it. I’m only glad there is no chance of the Maeander coming back; or alas! for my resolution.

M^r Dry read for about two hours today, & I’m getting very interested in the book. D^r Hadley brought me a beautiful pear from M^{rs} Dawson; he went again to the Firing, & I went a very short ride with he & Louis when he returned.

W.C. dined at Mess; D^r Hadley came for ½ an hour in the evening. I’m more glad than ever to see him now; he appears my only friend here. I’m very tired tonight.

[157] 22nd Wednesday. It has been such a very lovely day; and this, together with my having at length finished the Waistcoat, made me quite in good spirits. M^r Dry read for an hour before luncheon; and D^r Hadley & I had a pleasant ride on the Brown’s River road.

William dined with M^r Dry, at 5 o’clock, and went at 7 – to the theatre. It is expected there would be a very full house.

M^r & M^{rs} Curll & a M^r Maturin went with William. D^r Hadley came soon after the children went to bed. Tomorrow being the Hunt, he left precisely at 10 o’clock. I was busy during the evening making up M^r Thompson’s apron.

I shall pay everybody a visit tomorrow; & then go to hear the Band, which plays I hear, in the Square.

M^{rs} Harold is in town = & Miss King! 2 strange persons in their way!

[158] 23rd Thursday. At 7 o’clock précisément, W.C. left his home, to join the chase; he went up in his Excellency’s Suite, and dined With M^r Clark = so I presume, he remains there tonight.

I had the whole morning to work; & M^r Dry not having received his message, (or rather mine,) did not come until ½ past 1 – when I was ready to go and make Calls. He did not therefore remain, and I went up to M^{rs} White’s; then took up Miss M. Scott & brought her with me to M^{rs} Frazer’s, M^{rs} Stonor’s, M^{rs} Russell’s – Government House – and to M^{rs} Richardson’. The latter was at home, and more chatty than I ever saw her.

We next returned for M^{rs} Curll & the children, whom I drove to the Barracks, and then sent the Carriage home again. We wended our way towards the Band – which was

playing on the grass; [159] we however, saw the Colonel on the Flag Staff, and so we went up there too; & were soon followed by some man with two of D^r Hadley's chairs.

After sitting there a short time, the Colonel said he thought it was very cold, & would have the Band down near the Verandah. – Off moved the “Masse”; & we then sat in the Verandah; and cake was handed round.

M^{rs} John Fereday was devotedly attended by the Col: and all the “great folks” sat on one side of the door leading into the Mess room, whilst we, smaller folks, stayed on the other!

It was well attended; and M^r Macdonald & I had a long chat. He & M^r Gaynor came home with us all; and “Boy” walked up with Miss M. Scott & the two gentlemen.

[160] My head ached so violently all the evening; and does so still considerably. D^r Hadley wrote me such a kind little note; and early in the evening came to sit with me.

And now I'm going to take coffee & morphine.

/ It is just 2 o'clock, and as sleep will not come to me, I shall try & wear out my pain by writing for a time. I wish I could have put down on paper the pretty air that was in my poor head a little [while] ago! It would rival “Bonpeau's Dream”! I cried with its feeling!

Jane got up for me, and brought me some wood for my fire; and a lemon to make me something to quench my thirst: = she did not wish to leave me; more especially, when I told her I had seen William on horseback just now; and she thinks I'm crazy! But I'm not, thank God! I fear myself [161] sometimes that I may be – & this is one of the causes of my melancholy. Melancholy! how M^r Booth would smile at my being so! –

Oh! for one hour of Yesabba and its old & pure misery – yet happiness! how my life since then has been wasted! Yet I have done more good than a weak, erring, soul like myself might get credit for doing – God alone knows, and will ever know, all my thoughts, & ways, and works! and may he judge me with his Mercy.

Well; I shall go to bed, and read.

24th Friday = and her Majesty's Birthday. All the World is gone to Government House; and I should have done so too, had it not been for D^r Hadley. Whenever I go to any party, and he is there, he pretends to be tired, and gets me to come away; but if I'm not there, he invariably remains until the last. [162] So I have determined not to go to any more parties where he is. M^r & M^{rs} W. Sharland came into town to luncheon, and remain here until tomorrow; they are gone to the Ball. D^r Hadley dined here, and left soon after the others, for Government House. M^r Davies sent me 6 beautiful Camellias, so as I did not go, I gave one to M^{rs} Dawson, and one to M^{rs} Roberts.

I had a short ride today; but I feel very ill – and can scarcely say why & where! Last night I was reading “Roderick, the Last of the Goths”; and was so entertained with it; I shall read some of it now.

25th Saturday – Before M^r & M^{rs} Sharland left their room, I went round to M^{rs} Buckland’s; took back Mary’s frame she had kindly lent me; and gave a Cammellia to Miss Buckland. [163] M^r Dry read for an hour to me in the morning; D^r Hadley came in on his way to the firing; remained [to] luncheon; when D^r MacWharrie came in, and did the same. William came in, & went out immediately, to go and have an “explanation”, (alias a gossip) with Miss Swan. He has been away ever since.

M^r & M^{rs} Sharland had breakfast; when they went into town, accompanied by Miss Burnett, to shop. They returned at 2 o’clock to luncheon, and left at 3 – for New Norfolk.

M^r Clarke came in whilst they were here, and persuaded me to go with him to Boa Vista, to hear M^{rs} Fereday; accordingly we went, & I was highly gratified by hearing her sing Sacred music, accompanied by the Bishop, on the Organ.

There were about 30 persons present.

[164] We left a little before 5 o’clock; M^r Dry came out, and rode home with us. He wrote up to ask me if he should come & read tonight; but I was in too low spirits = & don’t wish him to see me so.

This morning I received a note from M^{rs} Chiene, wherein she tells me that M^{rs} E. Willis has gone off with M^r Ferrars! I’m very astonished; I imagined she was fond of M^r Fenwick! Ah! she will soon regret her too fond husband; & her poor little children, too! Oh! I could not leave these!

I’ve passed such a lonely night; for my eyes were too painful to work = & I was, so tired, and in such wretched spirits! This is the time I appreciate kindness & attention.

Lupden, has a son born to him today; & I’ve been hunting up “small clothes”, for him.

[165] 27th Monday. I was too ill to go to Church yesterday; and I could not even write. The children went for a walk with Jane in the afternoon. William came in from M^r Dry’s, just as we were at luncheon, but took none; he was off to M^{rs} Roberts’.

I sauntered with D^r Hadley into M^r E. Bedford’s, and met just at the gate, D^r Brock; so we walked on together. He & M^{rs} Brock are going to live at Longford.

Mess^{rs} Clarke, Stuart, Dry = Captⁿ Deering, and D^r Hadley dined with us; they left early. -

This morning just as lessons were over, in came the Misses Scott; then D^r Hadley; then M^{rs} Dawson. They left before luncheon; and D^r Hadley & W.C. went at ½ past 1 o’clock

to the Sandy Bay Races. I said if the weather were fine at Three, I would like a ride = but seeing D^r Hadley put a cigar into his mouth, as he mounted his horse, [166] I saw it would be a hopeless case my waiting for his return to ride with me; and said so. I had William's saddle put on the Mare, & away they went.

As I imagined, they only came in here after 5 o'clock, having been up at M^{rs} Dawson's for a long time. D^r Hadley dined here.

M^r Dry read to me this afternoon, & finished the 1st Volume of "Ferdinand & Isabella"; M^{rs} Agnew paid me a long visit: and M^r Smith (Dinah) sat here some time.

When all had left, I took Annie with me to Miss Sorell's, & found Miss Augusta alone, and busy working. Her two sisters soon came in, and Mess^{rs} Clarke & L. Smith. The latter walked home with me; & we met M^r Dry, who did the same.

M^{rs} Stonor told William, that M^{rs} Frazer was carrying on an [167] intrigue with M^r Gaynor; & thro' her means principally. The diabolical, little treacherous creature! to betray her friend to a comparative stranger! And the principal (?) person concerned – what can we say to her! She always seems so fond of her husband; says she is miserable when "Gordon" is away! and regrets having promised to go to Sydney, as she now must do so! Deceitfulness, certainly is always to be blamed; why appear fond, if she be not? Our affections are not in our own gift; = but Truth and sincerity, are!

Miss Buckland has sent me in my slippers, and they are very pretty.

I have been marking Shirts & handkerchiefs for W.C. – and it is past 12 –

After seeming to be very shocked at the lateness of the hour, in the foregoing page; I sat up until past 2 o'clock, and then took my book into bed with me, and read some of Southey.

I felt [myself] getting worse & worse; & at last, I had to call Jane up, and send for D^r Hadley. Bates was a very short time gone certainly. (altho' I was in pain) when he returned with the "good Samaritan". He had scarcely come, when William returned home; and the poor fellow remained the rest of the night in my room: with the Opossum rug, for a bed.

It is now nearly 12 on Tuesday night, & I feel the same extraordinary sensations coming again. William is just come from Mess, & in much pain in his stomach: & I hear dear D^r Hadley but now come to see him. I am endeavouring to take it "easy", and am sitting before a delightful fire! I might be [169] better employed, certainly; as I have taken Morphia.

Miss Buckland sat with me today for a while; she is looking ill, & suffering from rheumatism – I think in the form of gout.

M^{rs} Curll too, paid me a visit, and told me so gravely that she had been busy “sewing”! I asked her what? And she said “Oh! baby’s “clothes; but I’ve only cut one night gown out yet”!

I told her to be more careful for the future, what she said to M^r Arnold on his Intended; – as they were both sadly vexed at her recommending M^r Arnold to buy a small set of tea cups, in anticipation! She said she could not alter her conversation; so if people became huffed, why they must, & that was all!

I’ve not seen M^r Dry today, which I miss.

[170] Yesterday he was reading to me before I walked to Miss A. Sorell’s; & upon finishing the Vol: he said to Annie, “Is it not a pretty story”? “Oh! yes”; said Pussy. “Shall I read it to you again”? “Oh! no; I’m so glad you’ve done, for Aunt Annie never talks, only listens to you”! Miss Sorell asked her the other day, whom she loved best in the World. – “Aunt Annie”; she said. “What! better than Papa”? “Yes, a good deal; for I’ve known him longer”! This is so characteristic of the poor child, that I insert it.

And now to write to thank M^r Davies for his Camellias.

29th Wednesday. Not much has happened today; I’ve had few, (comparatively speaking) visitors. D^r Hadley came early to see William; then Captⁿ Deering – & sat some time. He says he will ride with me whilst D^r Hadley is away. [171] This latter gentleman came here in such distress; Col: Despard having refused to let Harefield go with him to Bothwell, as it was the Muster day on which he was to start. However, whilst he was here, M^r Johnston’s servant came to say it was all right.

I went for a ride to M^{rs} Booth’s, and most fortunately got in there during a severe shower.

William dined at home; & D^r Hadley & M^r Dry passed the evening here. I finished my apron. Sent Maria’s letter this afternoon.

M^r S. de Winton returned from Sydney today; I hope he has a letter from Mr Massie for me.

30th Thursday. Miss Burgess called, & stayed some time this morning; D^{rs} Hadley & MacWharrie luncheoned with me; & Captⁿ Pratt came in during the meal, but took none.

[172] I went for a ride with D^r Hadley, and was glad I did so, as it was so very fine.

On our way home, we called on M^{rs} Pratt; and asked after M^{rs} de Winton & her little daughter. I saw M^r de Winton, but he had no letters for me; he saw Robert Massie at Twofold Bay, & says he wanted sadly to come on with him, here. He had promised his brother, however, to go to Sydney, so could not come.

The “Hunters” start tomorrow morning; D^r Hadley was in a sad way about dining out with M^r Wilson, tonight: and I said it would be rude of him to come away before 10 o’clock, as he had promised to go there, notwithstanding he knew it was his last evening in town, for some days. I do delight in his society; yet I torment him sadly sometimes. I think were I to leave, he would miss me a little; but soon be fond of somebody else; in fact, marry!

[173] 31st Friday – Before I left my room this morning, D^r Hadley called to say Adieu; so I shook hands with him at the door. William left at 11 o’clock, and accompanied the Governor. I had all the morning to work, and got on famously with it. Captⁿ Deering called to ask me to go for a ride; and he & M^r Johnston came at ½ past 2 – when we had a very agreeable one, to the Ferry. We met Col: Despard & suite; and M^r Akers, the Sneak, came riding up for his dog, that was with us, but never even bowed to me. So much for his politeness!

I found that M^{rs} Dawson & the Misses Scott had called whilst I was out; M^r Dry too, left his book, – and came again before his dinner. He returned after his dinner, & sat & read until after 11 o’clock. [174] They remained at M^r Wilson’s until ½ past 2 this morning. After this, do’nt let D^r Hadley talk of not liking Whist, or Loo! He is fond of gambling, I’m certain – for he is easily led into any sort of Society, for a rubber. Bless his kind heart! perhaps he would not always do so.

1st of June – Saturday.

Immediately after breakfast, I sallied forth into town to do a little shopping; and returned very fagged at nearly 12 o’clock. There sat M^r Dry, like “Patience on a Monument”, waiting for me to read to. Walterson was here too; and I’ve given him “the Gambler’s wife” to copy for me.

M^r Dry read until luncheon; he had some soup with us, and then left – but returned at 4 o’clock, & read until Six; with the exception of a few minutes that M^r & M^{rs} Curll, & M^r [175] Smith were here.

During his absence, M^r Akers called to beg my forgiveness for his great rudeness of yesterday. I told him I thought him very rude; but freely pardoned him. He really was ashamed of himself! and to make up for it, he sat and read “Roderick” for an hour to me. Mary Ann Burnett called when I was out.

Lupden went by the Coach this morning for “Bessy”; & returned about 11 o’clock – and brought me a kind little note.

The pillow is getting on finely; & I think it much prettier than any pattern I’ve yet seen. Dear Ada is come home, and I’ve given her a new carpet rug. She was so happy to see me again, poor little thing.

This is the Anniversary of Grandpappa' & Papa's deaths. How [176] differently I might have been situated, had they lived until now.

2nd June – Sunday. I did not go to church, but remained at home with Annie, who has a bad cold; & sent Louis with M^{rs} Curll. My time was occupied for an hour in writing to M^r Massie.

After luncheon, the children both went to M^{rs} Curll's, and I sat with Miss Buckland, who is really very far from well.

M^r Dry called before I went round the corner; & walked so far with me.

Jane went to the christening of Lupden's first-born; & returned at 7 o'clock, highly pleased with the "respect paid to her"!

M^r & M^{rs} Curll & I, went up to see M^{rs} Pratt & M^{rs} de Winton. M^r Esdell was there; & walked with me to the Monument.

[177] Poor old Col: Jackson was there, and is much worse today, they say.

I put the children to bed; & had scarcely commenced reading, when in came D^r MacWharrie and he has only just left, it being near 12. He is a funny mortal.

It is too true about the unfortunate M^{rs} Willis; & they say she is gone to Port Fairy.

3rd Monday. I've been copying a Garrison Order for Captain Twiss; and have but little to put in this tonight.

Captⁿ Deering took me for a ride; it was cold beyond anything. We saw "Swordsman", and he looks very well.

M^r Dry read to me today; and had luncheon here. Poor Annie is not well tonight, & I've been quite vexed with her too, for screaming.

M^{rs} Curll was here; and I really think she stole some of my [178] twine, whilst I was up stairs.

M^{rs} Sullivan paid me a farewell visit this evening, before sailing for Norfolk Island.

4th Tuesday. I could not fulfil my engagement this morning with M^{rs} Dawson, I was too ill; my last night was so sleepless.

Misses M. Scott & Marian Walker came however, and I returned in the Carriage, to excuse myself to M^{rs} Dawson. She was very anxious for me to remain, but I did not.

Whilst at luncheon, or dinner rather, M^r Dry called: – and soon after, M^{rs} Dobson. I had just gone into the Drawing room, when in came M^{rs} F. Smith. M^{rs} Dobson began to speak of M^{rs} E. Willis, and the report lately abroad respecting her; it was traced to me, thro' Miss Buckland; but I'm happy to say it is untrue. [179] M^{rs} Smith sat a long time with me; she is very entertaining. M^{rs} Frazer came next: and I was puzzled to believe whether what I heard of her could be true, as, she laid such a stress on leaving "Gordon", to go to Sydney!

I really think the dark-eyed lady has been coining a tale, for W.C's edification.

This morning brought me notes from W.C. and D^r Hadley; it's very thoughtful of them both. I took a hot bath at St Mary's this evening, and feel refreshed by it.

M^r Dry came early – before 8 o'clock; and soon after D^r MacWharrie; & they have just left. M^r Johnston sat some time with me today; I like him pretty well, tho' not quite as well as Captⁿ Deering. And now to bed.

6th Thursday. The days, both yesterday & today, have been lovely, altho' very cold. [180] William returned early yesterday; and as he was sleepy, I left him at 4 o'clock to go with Captⁿ Deering round his Guards. We afterwards went round the Domain, and came in after the streets & shops were lighted – (both very badly!) W.C. dined at M^r Dry's; and a little before 8 o'clock, he & M^r Clarke came in. After having performed his toilette, (they both left) W.C. went to pass the evening at M^{rs} Roberts' – and I saw no more of him until just before dinner today. He was on a Board this morning, which kept him until nearly 9 o'clock.

D^r Hadley came in by last night's Coach, having remained as long as he could in the Country. = and perhaps he is right, to enjoy himself while he can. He came to see me after dinner, and remained until ½ past 9 o'clock. He was here today, a little after his usual hour, and I rode out with [181] Louis & him at 3 –; he having left for a half hour previously with Captain Twiss & M^r Dry.

M^{rs} Curll was here at the same time as these gentlemen; and Mary Anne Burnett sat with me for an hour before they came.

I sat with Miss Buckland for nearly two hours; she is very poorly, altho' better today. M^r Roberts & D^r Hadley dined here; and W.C. sleeps at home tonight. He has been sitting in my room, smoking a cigar, and chatting.

He told me a “good story” of M^r Tooth – about “Family Duty” – and also of D^r Hadley' riding 12 miles to see a Miss Harrison, generally considered pretty; but who happened not to be at Church. He appears quite delighted with his trip into the country.

There was a fire tonight, near to D^r Dawson's; and the Engine [182] & Soldiers went to it.

7th Friday. Nothing very particular occurred beyond the usual routine of every-day life! M^r Dry read to me for an hour in the morning, and he left as D^r Hadley came in.

We had our ride; I felt very ill – we came home; and M^r Clarke came & sat with me.

After arranging for M^r Sharland & W.C. to dine here; neither did. Poor D^r Hadley was too poorly to come up in the evening; & being in a lazy humour, I merely read a few of “Lockhart's poems”, and nearly fell asleep.

The Misses Burnett came here just before dinner, & frightened away M^r Clarke and W.C.

After my small dinner, I sat with poor Miss Buckland for an hour & ½; she was having on leeches, altho' a little better today.

[183] William received a letter from M^r Rutledge in which he says M^r Baxter is so ill with rheumatism, as to be obliged to go to Sydney for the Winter. And this explains his great wish to have me with him again! 'Twas to nurse him. The mean creature refuses to pay us the £40. Captain Pratt sat here some time today, and told me the names of the whole family or Clan Esdell! He is entertaining.

8th Saturday. How very fast this week has gone! It really appears to me that Sunday was only yesterday.

Today has been rainy, and I only moved out once, to go and see poor Miss Buckland, who is much worse today.

M^r Dry has been here three times; once before luncheon; once in the afternoon; & dined with us. [184] W.C., who has taken to grumbling of late at everything, and about everything, in his own house – began at dinner about some herb in a hash; and so I gave him a good retort.

D^r Hadley luncheoned here, and sat until nearly 5 o'clock. He does not look quite well.

I was sorry to hear of poor M^r Stonor's serious illness; he is out of his mind, and obliged to be sent away from ~~from~~ home. She is in sad distress about it, they say.

10th Monday. Yesterday morning I went to church, as I intended to, and did sit with, Miss Buckland in the afternoon.

D^r Hadley & M^r Dry luncheoned here; and the latter then drove with William to Captⁿ Twiss'; & the D^r rode up to M^{rs} Dawson's, [185] where he remained so long, that I went round to Miss Buckland's by myself.

Our usual party dined with us; & W.C. went off to sleep at M^r Dry's.

Soon after breakfast this morning, I went up to M^{rs} Green's, and then over to see M^{rs} Maclean. I sat some time with her; and called on my way home, for M^{rs} Curll, who went with me to see how Miss Buckland was. We were told she was much the same, & as I knew that if I went in my companion would too, I returned home with her, and she then went on to the Priaulx's.

Immediately I got my work and Louis was busy reading to me, the two Misses Sorell came. M^r Dry next came, to read – and then Captⁿ Twiss and M^{rs} Fereday. M^r Dry asked the latter to sing, which she kindly did after persuasion.

After all had left, M^r Dry read for 20 minutes, when luncheon [186] was announced, & D^r Hadley soon after. D^r MacWharrie came after the meal was over. I had a ride with D^r

Hadley; and he left at ½ past 4 o'clock: so he would no doubt, have a long walk before dinner – as he sent me up some beautiful apples from town.

I have been sitting with Miss Buckland this evening, from Five until 7 o'clock. She is very ill, poor thing! and very helpless. I have promised to sit up with her tomorrow night. M^r Clarke made his usual call. William M^r Dry & he, are gone out tonight to Captain Twiss'. Alone this evening, and very lazy.

14th Friday. And positively the very auspicious day, the wedding-day of the fair & frail Julia, was not noted! I fear I am very forgetful of the *étiquette* of my — oh! I cannot recollect what it was I intended saying; so I must return to [187] the “starting post”.

On Tuesday Night I sat up with Miss Buckland, and returned home at 7 o'clock on the following morning. I remained the whole time working & reading – and little thought how much I should suffer for it afterwards.

All Wednesday I really looked & felt ill. Yesterday morning at 10 o'clock, Marianne & I sallied forth to St David's, to witness the Nuptials of M^r Arnold with Miss Sorell. I was of M^r C. Wilmott's opinion – that unless I saw it, I could not believe it.

We went up into the Organ loft, and were congratulating ourselves on being so alone, when in walked M^{rs} Curll & all the family of Jews, i.e. Hartz & Cobens! Poor Marianne! she said so quaintly “I would give £20 gladly, to be out of this pew”! “I will go home! I hate coming in contact with such persons”. [188]⁶³ I agreed with her in all she said; excepting about the £20; – which I said, I would rather keep, myself.

A few minutes before Eleven, in walked Mess^{rs} Arnold & Clarke; the latter looking very well. The people began to come in quickly to the upper pews; and at last, a goodly few were collected. But to my amazement, in came “Mad Paddy”! Poor soul! he was so cleanly dressed, with his hair so smooth, and looking so orderly. I expected him to call out, & would not have let him see me for the world.

At 11 precisely, in came the wedding party, consisting of the three Misses Sorell & M^{rs} Jones; Three Mess^{rs} Sorell, A.Kemp, Captⁿ Hadden, & M^r E.Bedford. The latter's father had [189]⁶⁴ the honor of performing the Ceremony.

The Bride & her sisters were dressed in white muslin, Chip & straw bonnets; – but looked very cold, having no shawls, or any kind of out-door covering. (I was told by Miss Burgess, that they had on “Booke muslin dresses, with nothing else, so they looked cold”!)

The awful ceremony took place; & they are now “One flesh”. May they be happy.

⁶³ Unpaginated in original

⁶⁴ Unpaginated in original

William dined at D^r Dawson's; & I went in the evening with D^r Hadley, Captⁿ Deering & M^r L. Smith, to hear M^{rs} Fereday once more. It was a pleasant evening; and we were not home until 2 o'clock. I wore my beautiful red dress; & it was so much admired. The cameo brooch too; M^{rs} Fereday remarked; & said it was the best she had seen out of Italy. [190] There were about 25 persons there; and I came home in Captain Twiss' Cab, with his party.

Today I am suffering for my dissipation, in the shape of a violent pain in my side.

The Hunt took place at Richmond, and W.C. went off at 7 o'clock this morning with His Excellency & M^r Clarke; and came back this evening about 6 o'clock, in company with M^r Roberts & D^r Hadley. They had tea & mutton chops.

In the morning, after seeing my Patient, (who I'm happy to say is getting better), I drove up with Louis, to bring down M^{rs} Roberts & Eliza. The former, altho' lame, is looking better than I ever saw her; and more cheerful; & appears to be fonder of her husband than she was. She left with him about 9.

15th Saturday. I forgot to mention that before the Hunters [191] returned last night, there was a great hue & cry of "Stop him"; and upon our going out to see the fun, we found a man under escort of the Guard of the 99th – being marched back to the scene of his attempted pilfering – viz – Major Nicholson's. It appears he made his entry into the house, by one of the front windows, whilst they were at dinner in the next room; and upon the man servant opening the door, the ruffian got out of the window, and the servant after him; A constable standing by, gave chase but was knocked down for his pains; & the servant came up with him close to this, when he tripped him up, and fell on him, where he remained, until one of the 99th came to his help.

I sat some time this morning, with M^{rs} Stonor, who is better [192] than she was; & in good spirits owing to having heard from her husband, who is getting stronger. Poor fellow! he wishes so much to see her; and she seems so fond of him – that I cannot think she intended anything but a flirtation with Captⁿ F—y.

There was a luncheon at M^{rs} Burgess' yesterday, and singing after. M^{rs} Fereday & M^{rs} J. Burnett sang together, very well.

I could not go, owing to my Visitor.

M^{rs} Fereday left this morning by the Coach. M^{rs} Frazer is gone to Sydney by the Steamer, & left this on Thursday.

D^{rs} Hadley & MacWharrie sat for some hours here today; & the former went round with me to Miss Buckland's at 5 o'clock, where I sat until Seven.

On our way, we met Mess^{rs} Johnston & Clarke, coming to pay me a visit; so they turned back with me.

[193] When I returned home, I found a letter from dear Hal, in which she seems to think we ought to start for England immediately. It's contents made my heart beat; & my ^{eyes} stream with tears! Oh! I do'nt know how I shall ever leave this part of the Globe!

Monday. I was not well enough to go to church yesterday; nor did I move out of the house, until late in the afternoon – when D^r Hadley kindly accompanied me to M^r Burnett's, where we sat with Mary Anne some time: and then he left me at Miss Buckland's, where I sat until ½ past 5 o'clock. 'Twas fortunate I staid no later, for when I returned, I found the table laid for six, instead of eight persons; and I had to take everything off it, and add the leaf.

[194] it was a fine sight, to see old Bates' face looking despair; and whenever he left the room, I could hear a mumble-mumble to the Pope! –

Captain Deering, D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} de Winton, Clarke, Dry & Johnston dined with us. What beautiful eyes M^r de Winton has!

I wrote a long letter to Marion.

W.C. remained at home, and came & smoked his cigar in my room.

Today I've been ill all day; notwithstanding which, I rode in the afternoon, and called on M^{rs} Dawson, whom we afterwards met, walking with her dear, good husband.

I went in and sat with Miss Buckland when D^r Hadley left; & remained there until dinner. She is sitting up, & much better.

W.C. dined with me, & went to M^r Clarke's at 9.

[195] 19th Wednesday. I was not well enough to ride either yesterday or today; and my nose has been such a sight, with a gathering in the inside of it. Today D^r MacWharrie pricked it (as Doctors call it) with a lancet, and tonight it is better.

D^r Hadley called with me yesterday on M^{rs} E. Willis, and M^{rs} Smith. The former was from home, the latter we sat with some time. She is very agreeable.

M^r Dry called before dinner; and Captⁿ Deering & M^r Johnston too. The former of these too is going to Port Arthur for a week, and came to say Adieu to me.

W.C. & M^r Dry dined at Mess, and the latter came at 9 o'clock to read to me.

The two Misses Sorell called today, but I could not see them; they left the cushion for me to see, and I think it beautiful.

[196] W.C. dined at M^r Clarke's tonight; and D^r Hadley passed the evening here.

Tomorrow is Louis's birthday. Eight years old. My letter to Marion went yesterday.

Eh! bien; I went to bed on the 20th night of June; and I get up at ½ past 2 o'clock on the morning of the 21st, as I cannot sleep. D^r MacWharrie says truly that I overrate my Strength, and ride too far, when I do go out. And so it was yesterday. I felt much better, & said I would go for a short ride; but upon meeting D^r & M^{rs} Dawson, Misses Scott, Burgess & Allport, D^r Hadley immediately rode to M^{rs} Dawson's side, and with the exception of two or three minutes in the Domain, I did not see him again until we stopped at the Orphan School; I wished to turn back then, but did not like to [197] deprive him of his agreeable society; so, like a simpleton, I cantered on to O'Brien's Bridge, & have knocked myself up.

D^r MacWharrie dined with us; and William went without any, as the beef was underdone. Poor fellow! I know why it is he is so ill-tempered; on account of his leaving! But if he could only think how much I too grieve about it, he would be more considerate in his behaviour.

Crockford's likeness came home tonight, & it is nicely framed. Dear old horse! the sight of him reminds me of "Departed joys" indeed. Oh! I would give a great deal to be now, what I then was! So full of spirit; so buoyant; so comparatively speaking, happy myself – and never failing to make everyone else so around me. The very title they gave me of "Charity" – was changed in four short years, to that of [198] "Endurance". God has seen fit to punish me, and deservedly no doubt; my sins have been many, and grievous – and I have been smitten with Misery, where I of all persons, should feel it – in my home! So fond as I am of the word, and have none! When I see others happy, it goes to my heart, to think of what I might have been, and what I am.

And let me return to things as they are in the world of Hobart Town.

On our return from riding, we saw the Bride at her window; her father & sisters were passing the day with her, as it was her Birthday too.

Louis had some small friends to pass the afternoon with him; & I had to go & do Band for them, whilst they danced. W.C. took them home, & walked with Eliza up to her Aunt's, where he remained until 11 o'clock, when he came to say Good Night [199] to me, & then went off.

I've begun Cooper's "Pathfinder"; a work I never before heard of, altho' old. And now I shall take it into bed, and read away until sleep overtakes me.

22nd Saturday. Yesterday I was too ill to ride. Mess^{rs} Johnston, Dry & de Winton called. D^r Hadley came twice; & in the afternoon read to me. W.C. & he dined with M^r Fleming, together with ten other gentlemen. Today the Hounds threw off at "South Arm"; & the gentlemen went down the River at 8 o'clock in the Steamer; & came home (to Hobart Town) about that hour this evening.

I've not seen any of them, but D^r Hadley sent to ask how I was.

M^{rs} Curll paid me a long visit this morning; she is a queer little Mortal. She has positively already bespoken her Nurse, altho' she will not require her services until October! [200] She was saying that a woman, very stylishly dressed, frequently goes past her house, and laughs & winks at M^r Curll = & it worries her. "I don't know", said she very quaintly, "that he returns it; I don't know whether he ever was wild; but I know he used before we were married, go very often to Vauxhall, and Dance"! I could not help laughing, altho' I consoled her very much, she told me.

Next came Augusta Sorell, and remained to luncheon. M^{rs} F. Smith then came; & her Sposo, not very long after: then D^r MacWharrie. The latter took me a short ride.

I went in to sit with Miss Buckland; & amused the family by telling them of my going today to enquire how little Willie Denison was; & just as I said to the Footman "No danger, I [201] hope" – Off went my Mare, & D^r MacWharrie's horse, to the amazement of Don Whiskerando, and the rest of the multitude.

24th Monday – I went to Church yesterday morning and took both children. D^r Hadley met us at the Barrack gate, and walked home with us; & M^r Akers likewise. William had returned from M^r Clarke's where he slept; & was in a violent passion, (as usual) this time it was with Edward – who was ill in bed.

The poor fellow returned in the morning with the Mare, and also with a bad pain; – which I cured by giving him 45 drops of laudanum in some Castor Oil: so the fact was, the man could not answer questions, & was consequently thought impertinent!

I walked with D^r Hadley to call on M^{rs} de Winton & M^{rs} Pratt. Before going, M^r Clarke had a chat with me.

[202] D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} Clarke & L. Smith dined with us; there was a great debate in the evening, between D^r Hadley & William. The former, in speaking of M^r Mann, said, "I suppose as he is an Engineer, he is an Architect"? William & M^r Clarke both said "No; that no Engineer was an Architect; that it was a separate Branch of the Profession"! – I certainly until this, always thought with our friend the Doctor, as I knew that Engineers built Barracks, etc – but now I must give them no more the merit of possessing knowledge which is not their's.

I've not been well enough to ride today; but at dusk I went to see M^{rs} Curll & Miss Buckland.

W.C. dined at M^r Dry's; M^r Dry called today. M^{rs} F. Smith came too, & asked me there on Thursday but I thanked her for the invitation, & declined.

[203] 26th Wednesday. I rode a short distance yesterday afternoon, very quickly with D^r MacWharrie. I refused to go with my usual kind escort, as it was my opinion he only asked me from habit. Bless his kind heart! I felt the refusal much more than he did. M^{rs} Dawson & Miss Scott called yesterday. W.C. dined at home; and ^{at} nearly 10 o'clock, he went to M^r Dry's: they then both proceeded to the Billiard room, where they remained until ½ past 2 this morning. W.C. returned here to dress at ½ past Eleven .

The children went up to M^r White's this afternoon; Miss Burnett sat with me some time this morning; and Miss Buckland came here from her drive with M^{rs} Maclean. I took her home. D^r Hadley did not come until nearly 4 o'clock, being busy in [204] town: & I began to fear that I had offended him. M^{rs} E. Willis & M^r Frazer called.

After they had both left, I walked with D^r Hadley to call on M^{rs} Stonor, whom we found out. I then went to see M^{rs} Cully, who is in the country. I had a long letter from M^{rs} Brown, in which she speaks a great deal of M^{rs} Connolly's melancholy affair.

This evening D^{rs} MacWharrie & Hadley sat with me; I certainly should have wished for the company of One, rather than two! D^r MacWharrie had been a long walk with M^{rs} Dawson, Miss Scott, M^{rs} & Miss Burgess; & he made us laugh heartily at his description of the two elder ladies getting over logs; and leaning on their huge sticks coming down hill! [205] It has made us resolve to go next time, and see "the start"! D^r MacWharrie says the two ladies reminded [him] of pictures in the Pilgrim's progress.

29th Saturday. On Thursday M^{rs} Smith gave her Soirée, which I understand did not go off very well. On dit, the people preferred sitting still, to dancing. I did not go. The first who arrived were Misses Seccombe & Kemp; next came the two Misses Sorell, – so they did not entertain each other – only gazed! M^r & M^{rs} Roberts went next, and bowed to all, but spoke to none! And then M^r Morton & Miss Allport; the latter of whom walked up to shake hands with M^{rs} Roberts, who politely withdrew her's. *Après cela, tous le monde arrivée.*⁶⁵ M^{rs} H. Kay looked, I'm told, as tho' she had eaten too much; so very heavy. Major Last went in full uniform; and Captⁿ Deering & M^r Johnston went in plain clothes, as it was only a small Dance. [206] The "old man gentleman" felt aggrieved, and reported the two to Col: Despard C.B! who has ordered a Mess meeting for Tuesday next. What a bore to have such a man in a Regiment.

⁶⁵ After that all the world arrived (French).

Captain Deering, M^r Johnston & D^r Hadley were here for a long time on Thursday, & agreed to take Smith's Cab for the evening; however the latter thought of the 'Morrow's hunt; & Miss M. Scott was not to be there, so he remained at home.

On Friday the Mountains all around this pretty town, were covered with snow: & altho' it was a miserable day, continually snowing & raining, still I rather rejoiced in it; not having seen snow on the ground near me, since I left old England.

M^r Dry dined with us; and in the evening, we had the pleasure of seeing old Bates "off"; & a new Servant (Ignatius Delaney, no less!) come.

A small Cockney, named "Tommy Sharp" hired with me on Thursday, but altered his mind, and went a Footman to Sir J. Pedder's, instead. Tommy was very wrong, of course, to change his plans in this way; so W.C. wrote to the Judge telling him of it, and in the evening, in came the youthful Truant! I spoke to him; & he said in a very Capital accent, "Well Ma'am, "I am sorry to dispiut any gentl'man; but the truth is, your old serv'nt fritted me by saying, "Thank God! I shall leave now"! And so I thought this was'nt a good place, Ma'am"!

Tommy was wrong; Yes! but which of us is right? M^r Dry & William agreed that it would do him good to be kept in dread of being taken up on Monday, until that time; so away went the little fellow – [208] pulling out, before he left, a huge Watch – and saying he must go to the Tailor's, and take back some suit of livery, which had gone to be altered for him: And which I'm sure, if finished, will prove a dead loss to Sir John & his heirs for ever = unless, indeed, they may advertise for "A Footman of small dimensions; none need apply above the height of 5 feet 3 in".

The Hunters had a splendid day at Bagdad, what with the weather, & Champagne luncheon, given by M^r Tooth. Men in this respect, are so different to our Sex; after the first Youth is passed with them – they live but in eating and drinking! their whole soul seems wrapped up in a beef-steak pudding – Champagne – or even to devil'd bones!

Yesterday afternoon, D^r Hadley & I called on M^{rs} F. Smith, and sat there a long time. [209] We afterwards walked down with M^r Ludlow Smith as far as the corner of Harrington Street; & after leaving him, went on to St Mary's Hospital, where D^r Hadley left me to take a Bath – but I was disappointed in this, and had to walk home by myself to as far as the Barracks, where I met Mess^{rs} Macdonald & Smith, who accompanied me home. I do so much admire M^r Macdonald; he is one of the finest specimens of a man, I ever saw! And he seems so amiable.

I wrote to M^{rs} M^cLeod on Friday.

M^{rs} E. Willis left town yesterday, per Coach; she came to return my visit; & said the report was nothing, for she was quite used to such.

M^{rs} Brown & Emma wrote me a long letter; and I received it on Thursday. M^r Baxter had gone to Sydney.

Finished “the Caxtons”; The story is pretty, but not told in [209] Bulwer’s usual happy style. I have only ridden once since Wednesday week; and in consequence, feel quite ill.

Yesterday William drove me out to call on M^{rs} Arnold, who received me with a kiss! to my most thorough amazement. She looks very well; and seems snug, in her new domicile. [210] 2nd [July] Tuesday. On Sunday I did not go to Church; & in the afternoon D^r Hadley kindly walked with me to call on M^{rs} Stonor; whom I never saw look so plain. (Her poor husband returned from New Norfolk yesterday.)

After this, I sat some time with Miss Buckland. Our four friends dined with us, as usual.

Yesterday I rode with D^r Hadley & Louis. W.C. went up to a Dance at M^{rs} Roberts’ in the evening. Today Major Carr was buried; he died of Consumption, and leaves a wife & child.

[211] Wednesday. W.C. dined at home on Monday, and went up to M^{rs} Roberts’ in the evening.

D^r Hadley passed the evening with me.

The Dance went off well, excepting that there was nobody to play for the Dancers! Rather a drawback, it must be owned.

William dined with M^r Dry yesterday; & after that went to D^r Hadley’s room. M^r Dry came here, and read to me until after Eleven.

I yesterday drove D^r McWharrie out to M^{rs} Twiss’, and sat there a short time. The previous morning, I drove M^{rs} Curll to call on M^{rs} Smith, (R.N.) & the little lady looked almost pretty. She said to me “I know you are a Reader, so let me recommend you to get “Ferdinand & Isabella”; it is such a very interesting work.” “I’ve read the two first Vols: and nearly the third” – said I. “Do you like [212] reading”? said she to M^{rs} Curll – “Oh! yes; I’m very fond of it, but I’ve no time”!! This made us both laugh.

A sad affair has taken place in Sydney, lately. M^{rs} de Winton’s brother, M^r Allan, has committed suicide, by poisoning himself: & this rash act was occasioned by M^r G. FitzRoy’s paying too much attention at a Ball, to a Miss Clarke = to whom M^r Allan was attached. It is very melancholy.

I called on M^{rs} Twiss, M^{rs} Agnew, Misses Sorell, M^{rs} Richardson & M^{rs} C. Culley, yesterday. This morning I called on M^{rs} Bradbury; & in the afternoon D^r Hadley & I went to see M^{rs} Roberts. She was in her room dressing to go out for a ride; but we did not join her party, as W.C. & she are two! —

As we were riding, the subject began to be again [213] discussed respecting Architecture & Engineering; and a quarrel almost ensued in consequence. D^r Hadley said in a jocular way “Why I asked Sir William at Bagdad if an Engineer must not be an Architect; as you said he must not: and Sir William said, ‘I suppose that Hadden means he does not himself understand it’! —

W.C. flew off in a regular passion, and most unfortunately before me swore to a falsehood! viz: that he had said “No Architect need be an Engineer”! And he never said such a thing; — but quite the reverse. It makes me sorry to see men fly out in this way, as they are certain to forget what they are saying, and it seems to lookers-on, so very like Untruth.

He left us to ride & have a Cigar with Mess^{rs} A. Smith and C. Wilmott; and we two cantered on. As we came up Macquarie Street, we met [214] M^r Clarke, and D^r Hadley asked him the question, and he said “Oh! yes; that is what you said; but your argument was quite wrong”.

Soon after, M^r Clarke & I were sitting by the fire, when in came W.C. and put the same question! “Oh! I remember nothing about it”; said this Politician; not having actually Moral courage sufficient to state his own real opinion! I never was deceived in a man’s character, yet!

D^r Hadley came early, and we passed such a pleasant evening. W.C. dined with his Brother-Engineer.

5th Friday. Last evening M^r Hathaway gave a large party in honor of the American Independance, and his eldest girl’s 12th Birthday. William & Louis were invited; but the former had taken Miss Buckland up to New Norfolk, [215] where they hunt today; (not Miss B—) so Louis went with M^r & M^{rs} Buckland, and I sent for him at ½ past 9 o’clock.

Yesterday I went up to see M^{rs} Pratt, and sat there looking at the regiment being drilled by Major Last. When Parade was over, D^r Hadley & I walked into town with Captain Deering and M^r Johnston; both of whom were in great glee at the old Major’s stupidity in his drilling.

Captⁿ Deering said “I’ve had my revenge; Oh! that I should live to this day, to see the Regiment put into such a straight”!

When we got to Benjamin’s, we found Mess^{rs} L. & A. Smith, & M^r Macdonald eating oysters; so we had some; & I laughed at the latter person eating his. He is a good-tempered man.

M^{rs} Curll sat all yesterday morning with me; & M^r Dry came in vain, to read.

[216] This morning, immediately after breakfast, Marianne came; and remained until after 11 o’clock, when M^{rs} Roberts & Eliza came. M^r Dry came again in vain; D^r Dawson called & sat some time. The Misses Sorell came next, and then Ludlow Smith Esq^r –

These all remained until after 2 o’clock. M^{rs} Roberts & Eliza left at ½ past 4 – & the poor little woman said I must go and sit with her, as she could not come here again when W.C. was at home.

After breakfast I took the Rake, and went to garden; I had a regular crowd to see me: First came M^r Curll, then M^r Frazer; (who stayed some time this afternoon on his way from Office) then D^r MacWharrie, then D^r Seccombe; next M^r L. Smith.

They have had a beautiful day for the hunt; [217] and are I suppose about this time returning, as they were to dine at M^r Sharland’s.

I had such a really delightful letter from M^r Massie, this morning; he speaks affection in every line, dear, good, little soul! I wonder if he will see Baxter in Sydney?

Two new numbers of “Punch” came today; and in one is a beautiful sketch of “Pin money”; and “Needle money”. The former is a handsome girl sitting at her toilette table with a servant brushing her hair; and all kinds of jewelry before her; & the latter is the picture of a poor wan, pale, woman, sewing by a miserable light = and her hands and face such poverty! It is a very beautiful idea; & wonderfully shown forth in only a paltry print.

And now to bed.

6th Saturday – D^r Hadley came soon after breakfast; [218] and told me that William would be home early this morning; but as I know he is not always to his time, so at ½ past 2 o’clock, I rode out with D^r Hadley, who came for me at that time.

I luncheoned alone, as the children went to pass the day at Miss Sorell’s.

As we came up Elizabeth Street, we met the “Engineer” (not Architect –) returning home, from having driven Miss Schaw to the Ridsen Ferry; and then Miss Bligh into town.

I had a dreary ride, as my companion was in a very dreamy state after the previous day's dissipation. We called on M^{rs} Dawson, who was out; & on M^r Fleming – ditto – and on M^r & M^{rs} Arnold.

William dined at home, and we had a long chat in the evening. I'm really sorry that he should have quarrelled with M^{rs} Roberts; as I feel [219] sure they neither mean what they say.

I have dear old Crockford hung up in the Drawing-room, and he looks so well. M^r Massie says he wishes M^r Frazer would take my portrait too, and that I would give it to him: So I told M^r Frazer; and he said it would be impossible to make a correct copy of such an Original!! (Aut. 1. at Lloyd's!)⁶⁶

11th Thursday. I've been very ill ever since Sunday, altho' I only kept my room one day.

On Tuesday, Mess^{rs} Boyd & E. Bedford – & D^r MacWharrie dined here; I was up stairs, so only saw the latter of the three. D^r Hadley came at 1 o'clock, as usual; & finding me ill, sat with me until 4 – he came again in the evening, but late; as it was Mess Night. 'Twould be all the better, if he could be away from that Mess! [220] His Portrait came from Dowling's; but it is so very sickly looking, that I shall make him alter it. The Frame in which it is, is of Musk wood = and very handsome. The Picture should have been good, because he has such nice features.

Yesterday I had "Shirley" to read in the morning, and I sent home the first Volume this morning; and in the Evening I had two far greater "treats;" D^r Hadley came early, & passed a long Evening with me; & we looked over Glover's "Sketch Book". There are, in truth, some Gems in this in this; & I consider £10 – well given for such a bijoux.

I had a ride today. W.C. dined at M^r Maclean's on Wednesday; & M^r E. Bedford's today. M^r Clarke sat here until dinner, & then M^r Bedford sent in for him to go there.

[221] M^r L. Smith had an oyster luncheon here today. D^r Hadley came in too late. M^r Dry was here twice today; and sent up a note to W.C. this afternoon, asking him to put his name to a Bill for £100.

I have two long letters to go by the "Eliza"; one to dearest Hal; the other to M^r Thompson.

⁶⁶ The first word of this phrase is unclear.

Tomorrow, I must see about my Sydney and Port Phillip correspondents.

I've been alone this evening, and have read & worked, & sung away the hours; until now it is – 20 minutes past 11 o'clock.

Louisa Priaulx gave me such a pretty collar today; it is of her own work.

13th Saturday. Yesterday the two Misses Burnett sat with me in the morning for some time. D^r Hadley called in for a few minutes in the morning, and did not come as usual at 1, [222] so I went off to pay a few visits; when I returned home, I found he had called, but left no message, so I walked down to Miss Sorell's. On my return, I met M^{rs} Buckland & whilst talking to her, saw D^r Hadley riding out; so I thought he would not call for me again, & Louis & I had a canter on the Beach.

M^r Dry & D^r Hadley dined here. W.C. went out at 10 o'clock, and I did not see him until today at about 3 o'clock; D^r & M^{rs} Dawson & Miss Scott called then just as D^r Hadley & I were going for our ride. We had a long chat on the subject of the worsted waistcoat, which is said to be valued at £30! – and D^r Dawson says it has taken at present, 700 hours to work it! It is to be finished to send by M^r Dry. The Pillow was shown; and M^{rs} Dawson found out several uneven stitches in it's really beautiful [223] work. She is so jealous of any one's doing aught well in this way, but herself.

D^r Dawson starts for Launceston on Monday: M^r Dry & W.C. go thro' in the day.

Captain Deering called whilst I was out. Mess^{rs} Johnston & Clarke sat a long time with me before dinner; and W.C. dined with M^r Dry.

Early in the Evening, D^r Hadley came; & remained until after 10 – a strange thing for him!

M^{rs} E. Willis wrote to me on Friday, asking for the name of my Informant on the "Run away" affair. I do not know her address; so I've written to M^{rs} Chiene.

Finished "Shirley"; & think it well worth reading. They may say what they like respecting a few of the Conversations therein; I maintain they are true, altho' one would not wish them published!

15th Monday. I took the children to church in the afternoon; & was heartily tired with walking there and back.

In the morning I wrote letters; and after luncheon D^r Hadley & I went in to see M^r E. Bedford, who proved to be at home; so we chatted away some time.

I then went alone to M^{rs} Curl's; & she & her spouse walked with me to M^{rs} Pratt's.

Captⁿ Deering, D^r Hadley & M^r Clarke dined with us; the former, I'm sorry to say, looks ill.

Today I worked all the morning; D^r Hadley came at 1/2 past 1 o'clock & went away soon after; he asked me to ride, but I thought it would be too cold; however, I went out with William - and had a pleasant ride.

Captⁿ Deering & D^r Hadley came at a little before 6 o'clock, to say Adieu to W.C. & M^r Dry, who both went by the Mail this evening.

By the bye, I went to call on M^{rs} Dawson today. [225] She has finished her waistcoat this afternoon, and, sent it by M^r Dry, to M^r G. Fitz Roy.

16th Tuesday. Annie came & sat with me at her lessons this morning, whilst I worked; and as it was in my own room, I did a good deal.

D^r Hadley came at 1 o'clock and we rode out at 1/2 past 2 – The children went up to see M^{rs} Roberts; & afterwards were invited into M^{rs} Priaulx' to play, & take tea.

M^r Clarke came in before dinner; I'm glad to hear that he has not been to M^r Arnold's since the Sunday morning.

I heard today of Captain Keppell's being upset out of a Whale boat at Norfolk Island and saved by a Prisoner.

M^{rs} Buckland sent me all kinds of presents today; it is very kind, truly.

18th Thursday. Yesterday, let me see; I had [226] a nice canter with D^r Hadley round the Domain; We were both in good humour! – strange for me, for I am always feeling vexed with him; about trifles, too; but he is very amiable.

I went to Dowling's about the alteration in his likeness; & left the smaller one there. He kindly came in the evening, and sat with me.

I have been so terribly rheumatic all day, and really tonight, I could cry out with the pain in my knees & hip.

Captain Pratt paid me a visit this morning; & then D^r Hadley. The latter had to go to Parade in the Domain; so I did not ride.

I took two letters down to the Post; & as I was coming back, a man called me a [227] "Clipper"! Which term, I believe, I'm to consider very complimentary!

Something has been for the last three nights, urging me to look for Baxter's Will; I cannot think why!

M^{rs} Stonor paid me a long visit today; & we talked quite on literary topics, so I found her very entertaining.

The Misses Burnett sat with me a long time in the afternoon; & when they left, Captⁿ Deering, D^r Hadley, & M^r Johnston came in, & remained until 1/4 past 6 o'clock.

At ½ past seven, M^r Frazer came, & stayed until after 10; we chatted away famously. M^r & M^{rs} Arnold had the Carriage yesterday, & in coming into the yard, one of the Shafts was broken. Begun the Guard today. Reading “The Victim of the Jesuits”. — 20th Saturday. Miss Buckland called yesterday; she is looking better, but not strong. [228] M^{rs} Dawson & Miss Scott too, remained an hour in the morning. I had a letter from W.C. whilst they were here. All well at the Deanery. They have heard in a most unsatisfactory manner of Tom Lyttleton.

D^r Hadley, Captⁿ Deering, M^r Johnston and Louis rode with me yesterday. M^r Clarke sat with me until dinner time – when he went off, & took D^r Hadley with him; so I was alone again. I’ve had very quiet evenings all the week; only two Visitors!

Louis & Annie went Early to Miss Sorell’s; M^{rs} Curll came & sat an hour with me in the early part of the morning; Miss Buckland next came; and then D^r Hadley & M^r de Winton: the two latter left at 1 o’clock.— Miss Buckland remained to luncheon; & after that, I got ready for my ride with D^r Hadley. [229] I’m very fond of being alone with him; altho’ he positively scarcely speaks a syllable during the ride. We went to M^r Bicheno’s, & took the “Sketch book”. The old gentleman was very kind & amusing, as usual; he has a tumour on his head, which he asked me about; thinking that as I had had four taken out, I could give my idea of the pain! But no! I said it would be trifling.

Alone again – and so wretchedly low spirited. My happiness is truly gone! I find all in this world, blank! –

21st Sunday. I was too ill to get up this morning, and had not left my room when M^{rs} Roberts called. She is to pass Tuesday with me. Miss Buckland could not go to Church, owing to a sprained foot; so Louis went with M^{rs} Curll. D^r Hadley came a little before luncheon, and remained until past Four; [230] I felt his kindness in doing so; for I was in miserable spirits.

When he left, M^r Clarke came, & sat until nearly dinner time – when he went home, & returned to that meal.

Captain Deering & D^r Hadley too, dined with me. Poor Louis hurt his foot today.

29th Monday. I forget why I did not write in this last Monday & Tuesday; – but since then, I’ve been too ill to do so.

On Tuesday I drove Miss Buckland to see M^{rs} Arnold, M^{rs} Booth, and Mr H. Kay. I fancy it must have been cold; for when I came home, I sneazed [sic] continually; and so to add to this, I most imprudently sat on a very cold stone, in the bright moonlight,

listening to Military music. [231] My two companions, were M^r Frazer & Miss Buckland; and they complained so much at the time of the coldness of their seats; whilst I, who never said anything, have suffered severely ever since. I've said not a syllable of the matter, even to D^r Hadley – whom I tell everything to.

On Wednesday I thought to ride it off, & went for a canter with D^r Hadley, M^r Johnston & Captain Deering.

Friday was the Brown's River hunt; so I did not see any Doctor until nearly 5 o'clock; & besides which, he dined out, with the "Snob" set at M^r Mousson's.

William returned home last night, looking very well; & in famous spirits. He brought me affectionate notes from both M^{rs} Lyttleton and Maria; & little presents from both. The latter [232] of the two sent Annie such a pretty frock.

Miss Buckland sat with me last evening; & this, too. M^r Clarke & D^r Hadley dined with W.C. today – & I actually eat some mutton.

D^r Dawson has been with me both the last days for a long time. D^r MacWharrie too, was here today, with his poor hand.

W.C. tells me some extraordinary things with regard to M^{rs} E. W—s & M^r C. W—tt!

They passed for Man & Wife over on the Perth side of the Country. She must be very attractive! or else very wicked. I am sorry for his poor wife, who is fond of him; & who fretted at his leaving her just at this time. She would fret more, if she knew all that occurred.

M^{rs} Curll passed an hour with me this morning; she is looking very well.

[233] I've been reading "The hour and the Man", by Miss Martineau; it is entertaining, & gives such a good account of the West Indies & the Natives of the Islands there.

Three Ships in from England this last week, but no letters. Quantities of Illustrated News; & containing sad accounts of Ship wrecks. Tomorrow morning, please God, I must be up & doing; & must write to Margaret by the "Flying-Fish".

31st Wednesday. I have had during the last fortnight two delightful letters from M^r Massie. It is indeed a pleasure to read so much affection = as one may be sure at all events, that the writer's mind is fixed on you at whatever distance it may be, for the time. He was, and is, fonder of me than [234] I gave him credit for; & it was truly kind in him to forego my society, merely on account of what the World might say. He is going to buy "Crockford" for me.

And now to Hobart Town!

Yesterday W.C. dined at Mess; & I had the pleasure of Miss Buckland's society. Dr MacWharrie sat with me in the afternoon, he has a bad hand, poor fellow.

M^{rs} Agnew took chloroform, & had one tooth, and 3 stumps of teeth, extracted during her sleep, without in the least being aware of it.

There have been some most wonderful cases of Mesmerism in Port Philip, lately; I shall some day note them down = when time is not so precious; but now the days are so short, that there is scarcely time to see about one, when lo! it is dark.

[235] Captain Pratt, M^r Johnston & D^r Hadley sat here just before dinner yesterday.

Today Captⁿ Pratt & D^r Hadley came just at luncheon, the former left, and D^r Dawson came; but not until after M^{rs} Stonor had paid me a visit. W.C. came home then, & we went for a ride. I certainly do'nt feel any the worse, or any the better.

D^r Hadley has a very bad cold; & seems in low spirits, unless when we are alone.

M^{rs} Marriott has a little boy; they will be quite vexed that it was not a girl.

M^r & M^{rs} Curll dined with us today; they go tonight to lodge with M^{rs} Gibson.

M^r Clarke & D^r Hadley came here before dinner; & the former is going to ride "the Chestnut" on Friday, at the New Norfolk hunt.

[236] I'm beginning "the Favorite of Nature".

4th [August] Sunday – Yesterday was the Hunt at New Norfolk; William did not go. In the morning I took the children to Miss Sorell's; and after leaving them there, I called upon M^{rs} Agnew, to ask her to bring M^{rs} Walker tomorrow evening, to try & mesmerise some of us.

After that I called on old M^{rs} Culley, who now resides at the Macquarie Hotel, and who is very comfortable in her new abode. I could not help contrasting her with M^{rs} Curll, whom I had seen just before, in her new residence! The latter said "Oh! dear me; I've done nothing but lie on Hannah's bed ever since I came here; I am nearly drummed to death! I hear nothing but Drums"! Age & Youth reversed!

On Friday D^r Dawson gave a dinner party; W.C., D^r Hadley, M^r Johnston – dined there.

[237] Miss Buckland & D^r MacWharrie sat with me in the evening; and when W.C. returned home, he found the latter still here.

Yesterday I had a letter from M^{rs} Rutledge in which she tells me that M^r Flower is to be married in October to Amy Kirk. He really deserves her, for his Constancy! I've written to M^r Massie; the despatch to go by the Emma. It is in answer to two of his. Miss Bostock is in Sydney, & quite enjoying her trip there. M^{rs} Connolly is still with her brother Tom, & likely to remain, as the husband has betaken himself to M^r J.

Ritchie's new house. I should not wonder if the latter were to marry Miss Bostock on her return from Sydney. Nous verrons.

M^{rs} Rutledge is highly pleased with the paper of floss silk I gave her. And this is the finis.

4th August/50

Annie Maria Baxter

Notebook 14 (MS. Q182 Item 3): 4 August 1850 – 23 January 1851 (1 –128)

Annie Maria Baxter

Vol: 18th

[1] August the 4th 1850 – And as I was saying in my last Volume, the Hunt took place yesterday; and today our three friends dined with us as usual.

In the afternoon, D^r Hadley walked with me to call on M^{rs} Stonor, & we sat there some time chatting. After he left me at home, I went down to see the Misses Burnett, & on my way, let M^r E. Bedford's cow into their yard; patted "Don" & "Spring", and was met by Miss Buckland, who went with me. We found them out; as we did M^{rs} Curll. Miss Buckland came up into my room and chatted a short time, & then went home.

As M^r Clarke, Captⁿ Deering & I were talking this evening in the Drawing Room, I quietly picked M^r Clarke's pocket of his keys; [2] and as he is gone home without them, I do'nt suppose he felt me take them.

6th Tuesday. Yesterday D^r Hadley & I had a ride round the Domain; and in the evening, just before dinner, I went to see poor Prior who is very ill indeed. I took him some milk & arrow-root; & today some tarts, as he fancied them. I likewise gave him £10- from William.

As we returned yesterday from Prior's, we took the two Misses Sorell up in the carriage & they dined with us.

In the evening D^r & M^{rs} Agnew, M^{rs} Walker, ~~the~~ Miss Buckland; D^r Hadley & M^r Clarke came. M^{rs} Walker & D^r Agnew first tried vainly, to mesmerize Miss Ada Sorell; but she could not sufficiently fix her attention. They afterwards tried on me, & in part, succeeded. [3] Very soon after their making "passes" on me, I felt as tho' I had taken chloroform; my heart seemed to beat very heavily, & altho' I did not lose consciousness, still it was very near it. Upon D^r Agnew giving up his part, I awoke immediately. W.C. went home with M^{rs} Walker, and then with the Misses Sorell; & remained at M^r Clarke's until late this morning.

D^r Hadley called to ask me if I would ride, and came again at ½ past Two. Louis accompanied us; and Captⁿ Deering met us at the Post Office, & joined us. We met W.C. in the Domain, driving the Misses Sorell. Before leaving home for my ride, M^{rs} & Miss Priaulx, D^r MacWharrie & Col: Despard called. The latter on W.C. of course.

[4] W.C. dines at Mess tonight; and I went with M^r & M^{rs} Stonor to hear M^r Elliston read the Play of “Henry the 8th”. The Room was thronged! I’ve never seen so many persons collected in Van Diemen’s Land. He reads very well; & it was worth going for. There was a most excellent anecdote lately occurred here. A gentleman went to the “Penetentiary” [sic] to select two prisoner servants; & on his entrance gave the order to the Clerk; who called out, “as usual”, to some Constables, & the man found himself very quickly derobéd, and put into a tub of water, & well washed. Besides this, a barber came & cut his hair off, and shaved his whiskers off; and upon his saying he would complain to the Governor, he got the brush dabbed into his mouth; – [5] Whereupon he said “And this is the way you serve them”; and had for answer, “Just as if you had never been sarved so before”! He thought the wisest plan was to submit; so after all was over, and the mistake found out, he said “There, give me my servants;” & walked off – as he said – “not having had such a good wash, for a long time”.

Today the Council met; & Captⁿ Deering was on the Guard of honor. As he was standing outside the Council Chamber, a Butcher boy rode up & said, looking at the Soldiers, “are them the last Drove from England”? So he answered him laughing, “Yes; what do you think of them”?

7th Wednesday. The morning, as usual, with the children; and at 12 o’clock, [6] Mary Anne Burnett, came. She remained until One; at ½ past 2, Louis & I went for a ride with D^r Hadley. He was in unusually good spirits, and I in unusually low ones. Nearly the whole time I was out, the tears were chasing each other down my cheeks: and perhaps, it is not much to be wondered at.

Upon consideration, I have no right to go to England, for my Passage money would take my whole Year’s allowance, at the present rate of Interest which I get. It is not my wish to be dependent on William, and I do not see how I am to exist in England on so small a sum as £80- per annum. But it is very paltry-minded in me to fret about such things; I must only make up my mind what to do = and first of all, I must show the Deed to M^r Roberts, and ask his advice on it, as W.C. says it is not worth a farthing. [7] Oh! surely, I suffer for my sins! what with bad health & anxiety.

I fear I shall have to go over to Port Fairy, & settle the affair.

D^r Hadley came up in the evening; & W.C. dined with me, and went up to the Barracks at Ten, to play a rubber at Whist. My kind friend remained until ½ past, & appeared so sorry at my being out of spirits.

I met M^{rs} Roberts in town, who looks very ill.

13th Tuesday. I can hardly account for my laziness in not writing oftener in this book. Since I did so, I have driven M^{rs} Cully up to M^{rs} Roberts'; taken my usual rides, until today; when I drove out the children to Prior's. He is still very ill; and his poor wife, near her confinement, and has [8] to nurse him, & a sick child = besides which her leg is swollen so shockingly; & obliged to be bandaged. Unfortunate creatures! How sad to see persons married, and with families encreasing rapidly; with sickness & Poverty to contend with. She said to me "Oh! that it will please God to put me out of my Misery! He seems to have quite forgotten us!" "Whom the Lord loveth, he chasteneth;" I replied: and went on to tell her she must think more of her children, & less of herself. Our three friends dined with us on Sunday, & M^r L. Smith, likewise. Monday Mess^{rs} Sharland & Clarke, & D^r Hadley dined with us; & had a Rubber of Whist in the evening.

Last Thursday we went to D^r Agnew's in the evening – [9] but before we started a most ludicrous affair took place. It appears that W.C. had asked M^{rs} Walker to come & dine with us at ½ past 6 o'clock on that day. He asked M^r Sharland, without recollecting his prior Invite, to dine with us at 5 o' – so we had just finished our dinner, when in walked the Lady! "Oh ! Heavens! what have I done"? said he. M^r Sharland laughed outright, and I had to go & apologise; & brought her into the Dining room, to dessert. They tried in vain to mesmerise me; I could not settle my mind sufficiently. M^{rs} Agnew, when we got there, jumped up from off her bed; & declared she had over-slept herself an hour, exactly.

W.C. is dining at Mess tonight. D^r Hadley came for ½ an hour, to say "Adieu"; as he starts tomorrow morning to Port [10] Arthur; to remain until Monday next.

M^{rs} Walker is taking my profile in wax. I'm afraid she will not succeed any better than the rest: yet I hope she may, as I wish so much to send one away.

This morning I received two long letters from dear M^r Massie; they have pained me considerably. Only to imagine me, a vain woman, never dreaming of what the contents of one letter tells me. He truly says, "we will be dear, very dear friends"! Poor soul! & I always quizzing him about his penchant for so many fair ones! –

Armidale is quite a township; and he says his Cottage is so comfortable; & he has sent me a sketch of his old Cottage on the McLeay. He has enclosed two letters of 1844; why did he [11] not send them before? They would have altered my views very much; & how much happier I might have been.

Baxter is gone with M^r Flower to Port Macquarie; so he will see Captain Briggs, & be able to do something for him, I hope.

The report today in town, is, that M^r Smith O'Brien has made his escape from Port Arthur – or rather “Maria Island”; how true the statement is, remains to be proved. I shall write by the Blenheim to M^r Massie.

M^{rs} McLeod sent me such a long letter last week; & really almost abused me in it, about M^{rs} E. Willis: I must go to bed now, & write more on this subject another time. It is past Midnight.

[12]17th Saturday. D^r Hadley left on Wednesday by the Steamer; I did not write to him yesterday as he wished; because if he wished to know how I was, he could have remained in town & asked me; he went away for pleasure, so I would not mar it. He was very sea sick going down to Port Arthur, and purposes riding home: however, the rain may detain him.

William drove Captain Deering up to New Norfolk yesterday evening to dinner, & has not yet returned.

Captⁿ Deering came for me on Wednesday & Thursday to ride; M^r Johnston too, went with me on the first day: and today D^r MacWharrie & he went with me. Poor M^r Johnston! he has lost his Mother, and is in very low spirits in consequence.

On Thursday M^{rs} Walker, Mess^{rs} Sharland & Schaw [13] & Captain Deering dined here. Before dinner Mess^{rs} Clarke & Akers called; the former to say that the Governor[']s Box at the Theatre was at our disposal; so knowing that the gentlemen would like to go, I sent to Miss Buckland to come in, and accompany M^{rs} Walker there: the Fates however, decided that I should not get out of it, & so away we went, only six in a Cab! I sat on W.C.'s knee going; Miss Buckland took my place coming home.

“Brutus” was performed; oh! such work! the last scene, I fairly laughed out, at = for when the Ghost is seen, one of the Actresses, an enormously stout woman, fell flat on her face, & in consequence, up went her legs!

“Good St Anthony” was very well sung.

Coming home, M^r Maclean, Captⁿ Deering and W.C. were on the box with Ashton; [14] Mess^{rs} Sharland & de Winton, M^{rs} Walker, Miss Buckland & myself inside; so the latter young lady sat somewhere between M^{rs} Walker' & M^r de Winton's knees! We left M^r Sharland at the Ship Inn; & it being a lovely night, we drove M^r Maclean & M^{rs} Walker home – and then they put me down, & the rest went to their respective homes & families.

I called yesterday to see Miss Sorell, who is very poorly with the mumps; I sent her some books this evening. Miss Ada went up to dress for walking, & I called in at M^{rs} Agnew's. I found both she & D^r Agnew in. We then (Miss A. Sorell & I) proceeded to the Post Office, where I put two letters; the one to Armidale (3rd) and the other for M^r W. Rutledge, with an enclosure for M^r Baxter.

I received at the late hour of yesterday, a letter from this [15] gentleman; & Mess^{rs} Allport & Roberts have a Deed for me to sign, sent to them by M^r Wickham. I have told M^r B — that I will sign it, provided he agrees to certain terms that I've mentioned.

I called on Wednesday morning on M^{rs} Frazer & M^{rs} Dawson; the latter has many excellent qualities no doubt, but she is very silly & jealous; & in a woman of her age, these appear very out-of-place.

I had last evening, by the Franklin, a long long letter from dearest Marion; who writes in her usual happy way. She too, has had a Geelong account of my affair with M^{rs} E. Willis; but she does not believe it. She tells me of M^r Baxter, and if her two Sydney correspondents are to be relied upon, certainly they corroborate M^{rs} Frazer's account of the [16] appearance & health of my Husband. Marion gives me a description of her Baby. I must copy out the paragraphs from her letter referring to M^r B.⁶⁷
[17] Mr de Winton has been sitting with me for upwards of an hour; & we have been talking over Mr Massie & the Port Macquarie people. I like him so much.

I answered M^{rs} McLeod by the Shamrock; & sent my letter to M^{rs} Chiene to fill up.

18th Sunday. D^r MacWharrie sat here the whole afternoon, and it rained all the time. I wrote a very long letter to Marion, which will go by tomorrow's post. The day has seemed so long; and I missed my kind friend D^r Hadley so much at dinner: but I only called Captⁿ Deering, D^r Hadley, twice. William drove Captain Deering back at 3 o'clock. M^r Clarke came in just before dinner. D^r MacWharrie dined here too.

I have not been out today, it has been so very wet; I hope it will be finer tomorrow.

[18] 19th ~~Tuesday~~^{Monday} I sent my letter to Marion today.

It has been very wet all day; & I've remained at home in consequence. My time has been indeed fully occupied; I've scarcely had a moment to think, even: and perhaps all the better for this, as they (my thoughts, I mean,) are never very pleasant. It is strange, but true — that until M^r de Winton said a few words on Saturday about M^r Massie's

⁶⁷ The remainder of the page is blank.

views, I never had understood what the latter meant when he so often said “But I must have an object”! – I should have been vain I think, to entertain then, the idea that I do now. Dear, good creature that he is; what a happy woman she will be who gets him. The children went to Government House for an hour this evening; they were to have gone at 6 o’clock, but I did not know it.

[19] William went off this morning soon after breakfast, and did not return until after Eight. He was at M^{rs} Roberts’, and the Billiard room.

M^r Davies is gone down to Bruny Island, to assist in consecrating the Church there. D^r Hadley has not been here tonight, so I suppose he is not home. Perhaps passing the night at the “Ferry”.

M^r Lochnar wrote a most amusing despatch to M^r Johnston, in which he says all of them are coming up here on sick leave; to be given them by D^r Jones 99th: and he is to get the same from the Col: Surgeon D^r Dernier . He sends sketches of the people on the Island viewing the Lady Franklin “coming in”; & of her departure. The Maeander was there, & the Middies & Captⁿ Keppell went on shore, & were nearly drowned, by the boat’ upsetting.

[20] It is such a tiresome thing, M^{rs} Walker being unable to take my profile in wax. Everybody who sees it says some different thing of it; but William put a finishing stroke on it by saying, “I see but one fault in it, and that is, that there is no likeness to you in it”.

20th Tuesday. At breakfast this morning, Annie amused me by saying that M^{rs} Sharland had told her last night that I was very “stupid” – for not knowing what time to send them to the Party on the previous evening. I said “Ah! well, it is not every one who is as wise as M^{rs} “Sharland, Annie”! “Is she wiser than you then, Aunt Annie?” said Louis – “Don’t you think dear, that her’s was a wise speech”? “No! but she is stupid, not you”! he replied. This was satisfactory, at all events.

D^r MacWharrie came in whilst we were at breakfast.

[21] I went in soon after, to M^r E. Bedford’s, and gathered some Violets.

D^r Dawson sat some time here; how much more sensible he is, than his wife.

D^r MacWharrie & Louis went for a ride with me; & on my return, we went up to see M^{rs} Pratt, when my companion espied D^r Hadley: I had just finished dressing, when he came to see me, & sat here until dinner time. M^r Clarke & Miss Buckland came in too; & they all left together: and William dined with D^r MacWharrie. Miss Buckland passed the evening with me.

D^r Hadley seems pleased with his trip, but suffered so much from sickness: I told him I was not sorry, as he was always so glad to leave us.

21st Wednesday. M^{rs} Walker & D^r Hadley were my two first [22] Visitors today: they came together at ½ past 12. The former commenced at my Profile, & made sundry alterations for the better. She had luncheon, and then left. M^r Nunn came next. We then took our ride, and pretty sharply, too. D^r Hadley left then, & came in this evening. M^r Clarke was talking to me at the window, when Captⁿ Deering & M^r Johnston came too; they staid a long time chatting –

I was dressing & washing, when the carriage came in, and Miss Sorell in it; so after a short time I sent for her to come up & undress herself. –

M^{rs} Richardson came in, & sat a little while. After dinner Miss Buckland came, & the good people have not long been gone. I've been giving poor William some whey for his bad cold. No news, with the exception of M^r Akers' [23] having been found with his arm round Miss Despard's waist! & M^{rs} Berrison' calling on M^{rs} Despard. Well, the latter may be a person much belied; and her child may be a six months affair! But those obstinate Doctors will think differently: and D^r Dawson said the business was too bare-faced by half, to allow of M^{rs} Dawson calling on her.

22nd Thursday. M^r Sharland breakfasted with me at 9 o'clock; M^{rs} Walker came at ½ past. After seeing them comfortably settled to the portrait taking, I went down to see M^{rs} Curll, & sat there until after Parade. It is such a treat to me to hear Military music. I walked home, and Mrs Walker touched up my face. The next arrivals were M^{rs} Roberts, Miss Simmons & Eliza; they luncheoned with us, and remained until 3 o'clock, [24] when they walked into town, and William with them. M^{rs} Roberts is looking very well. Miss Simmons is a tall, slight, handsome girl; she might be made very stylish-looking.

D^r Hadley came in to luncheon; and just before that meal, M^r Davies arrived. He drove Peter out in the carriage to Bishop Stowe, & Edward brought it back.

Captain Pratt called whilst we were at luncheon. Marianne came in just as all the others were going, and told me her sister was ill; so after my ride, I went down to see her.

M^r Johnston & D^r Hadley went with me to ride. The children went into M^{rs} Priaulx's to play. W.C. and I dined alone; and after dinner I finished copying "Hearts & Homes", and took back the book to Miss Buckland.

[25] All agree that mine is a good likeness, but much too old: I like this better, than it that it should be thought flattering.

My poor old face never was more discussed I'm sure, than it has been lately. I asked M^{rs} Walker why she had flattered (as Mess^{rs} Burnett & Buckland said) M^r Sharland; and not done so with me: so she said "Oh! I could not flatter your face"! Shall I turn vain?

24th Saturday. Yesterday M^{rs} Walker & M^r Sharland were here, as the previous day: and after she had finished his caste, which is most excellent, she altered mine.

M^r Sharland wrote until 1 o'clock, when both he & M^{rs} Walker left. D^r Hadley & M^r Johnston came in to luncheon, and they remained until after 2 = when we rode out to see the "Army" in the Domain. [26] M^r Austin met us, or rather overtook us, in Macquarie Street, and rode with us to the Domain, where we had a talk whilst looking at the Regiment. I certainly don't find his manner[s] improve by conversation; nor do I approve of his fixed stare.

In the evening we went to the Theatre to hear the "Ethiopean Serenaders"; they performed very well. Two of them play the Accordion well; & one man plays some bones remarkably well. Some of their Riddles were tolerably good, & rather laughable. A story too, that one of them tells of a mouse that fell into a cask of beer, and seeing a cat pass, begged of it to help it out; the Cat agreed to do so, but at the same time said that when the mouse was out, she should eat it! The mouse said it preferred being eaten by a cat, to being drowned in beer. When it was out, the Cat's attention [27] being called off, the mouse escaped into a hole, and when the Cat reminded it of it's agreement, and called it "an ungrateful little animal" = "Oh!" said the mouse, "I know I did promise you; but recollect, I was then in liquor"!

They sang two very pretty songs – called "Take me back to old Virginia" - and "The banks of the Ohio". We sat in the Governor's box; & M^{rs} C. Wilmott was the centre of attraction, & M^{rs} J. Dunn, & M^{rs} Arnold on either side.

It was too wet today for the children to go to Miss Sorell's, so I passed the morning with them. In the afternoon, they went to M^{rs} Priaulx's, & remained to tea. W.C. dined at D^r H. Butler's. Captain Deering & D^r Hadley luncheoned here, and left at ½ past 2 – D^r Hadley & I went to O'Brien's Bridge. [28] After I returned from my ride, I went down to see Miss Sorell, & found her much better. Had a chat with M^r Esdale & D^r MacWharrie, and a laugh at M^r Smith.

D^r Hadley passed the evening with me. I've finished reading the "Isle of Palms".

26th Monday. D^r MacWharrie dined with me, and as usual stayed very late: it is past 12 o'clock. He sent to D^r Agnew's for the S[] and I'm happy to say, my deafness is

better, in consequence. He is a queer mortal; & I wish I could quite believe what he tells me of a friend of mine – I should be happier. It is very strange, but I never could believe thoroughly in any person's love – Man, Woman or child!

I took the children to Church yesterday morning and in the afternoon, went to see M^{rs} Pratt & M^{rs} de Winton. [29] Captⁿ Deering, D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} Clarke & Johnston dined here.

I had a ride today; and after coming in, M^{rs} Stonor called & sat some time. M^r Clarke next came, and left to go and make up an affront to Miss R. Kemp, after which he returned here.

M^r de Winton sat some time with me, indeed until ½ past 6 o'clock, when he left with M^r Clarke. W.C. dined with M^r Clarke; & D^r MacWharrie with me. M^r A. Marriott had luncheon here today; he seems sadly vexed with Tom's speculations.

27th Tuesday – I went directly after breakfast to Miss Burnett's, and found Mary Anne had the mumps! The children next came on the list – and oh! I last night finished my cushion.

Annie was to pass the afternoon at M^{rs} Smith's, Louis & [30] Catharine therefore walked with her there. I walked into town with M^{rs} Curll, and have come home very tired. M^r Clarke came here, and remained until 6 o'clock, when he went home to entertain Mess^{rs} de Winton, C. Wilmott, and L. Smith; after dinner, they go to the Theatre to hear the Connundrums.

Whilst in Hamilton's shop, M^r Foster came to my side, & was looking at some patterns with me. He turned round, and said "Only look here, and see the number of twin-looking persons there are on these brooches"? "Oh! this is the Virgin & child;" said I. – "What! all these (some doyen of the same painting) Virgins with children"? "No"; I rejoined, "here are two young women without children, & who seem to be on their own hands"! – He laughed immoderately at the idea.

[31] There is to be no Hunt at Bagdad on the next Saturday: what will the Hunters do? And now to bed; it being 12 o'clock.

28th Wednesday. I've just returned from passing the evening at M^{rs} Buckland's; where I found the Misses Sorell, Lewis, and Pitcairn. I never had met the two latter; and am pleased with both. Miss Pitcairn plays remarkably well, & with much feeling. Miss Lewis sings well, and has a mellow, deep voice, with seemingly a good compass, too.

We had invitations for Monday evening, to Government House; for the purpose of hearing the Serenaders.

I had a very agreeable ride with D^r Hadley, altho' he scarcely spoke to me. Poor Louis did not go, as he received a flogging this morning, & I thought riding would not agree [32] with him. I received a note from M^{rs} Chiene, in which she encloses the copy of her's to M^{rs} McLeod.

I do really believe that A.S. is fond of my Brother; & what a silly girl to be so, knowing, as she must, what a regular Flirt he is. She looks very ill.

I've got the music of "Virgininy Shores" –

29th Thursday. This morning I went out into town, and hunted thro' all the shops for tassels & satin for the cushion; at last I got them at Pearson's, and very pretty they are, too. When I returned, I found W.C. at home. M^{rs} Walker came and finished off my portrait. D^r Hadley came next, and left at a little after 2, to go to the Hunt: he & W.C. both rode up with the Governor & hunt tomorrow at the "Woolpack Inn", near to New Norfolk. [33] The Misses Sorell came here just before he left, and soon after he had gone, I drove them to M^{rs} Burgess', whom we met as we were leaving the gate; and then to M^{rs} Twiss'. As we passed this house, we found M^{rs} Dawson & Miss Scott in their carriage at the door; so after a small chat, we drove on & off.

I was amused at M^{rs} Twiss' saying, when I told her that M^{rs} Walker had not made a likeness of me until [to]day, "Oh! I suppose you did not think it sufficiently good-looking"? So I can understand from this, that she is inclined to consider me Vain!

D^r Agnew called to say that his little wife was not well enough to see us tomorrow at dinner; and I called & sat with her a little while on my way home. She said that M^{rs} Curll attributed D^r MacWharrie's coolness to her, [34] to something I had told him of her! What a little deceitful thing, she is: I shall not trouble her with my company again for some time. Why if it had not been for me, he would not have gone near her again. I went to see Prior today: he is very ill, & truly wretched looking. I sent M^r Esdell his song.

31st Saturday. I was too tired last night to write in this book; whatt [sic] with Mesmerism, & laughing, I was completely "Done up".

After the luncheon yesterday, the children had the two little Priaulx' in, to go for a walk with them, & remain to tea. Captain Pratt came to have a chat; D^r McWharrie was here previously, and remained all the afternoon. Captain Deering & M^r Johnston paid me a visit, & whilst they were all here, in came M^{rs} & Miss Twiss.

[35] In the evening, D^r Macwharrie called for me, and we went down to D^r Agnew's; before going, however, I blackened my eyebrows; put plaster over my mole, and so

disfigured myself, that M^{rs} Agnew took me for a very intoxicated person, & opened the street door for me, to get rid of me. When D^r Agnew came in, I personated a “Patient”; he asked me what I complained of? – and I said “Pain in my chest”. “Were my eyes affected”? “Slightly” – whereupon he lit a candle, and held it to my eyes; and I squinted, blinked, winked, etc. He said he would call on the morrow to see me; & I got up to go, but could not contain my laughter any more. He says he never saw more perfect acting, & never had the smallest idea of it’s being me.

We had a pleasant evening.

[36] Zoe came home at eight; & after feeding well, laid herself down in the stall, full stretch: she seemed so happy to be in her own home.

D^r Hadley came about ½ past 11 o’clock, and he seemed pleased with the hunt, altho’ very tired. I had just returned from M^{rs} Roberts’, where the children had gone with me. M^{rs} Dawson & Miss Scott came to see me; & the Misses Sorell & Lewis. I left the latter with W.C., and D^r Hadley drove to D^r Dawson’s and rested there, whilst I went to call on M^{rs} White; whom, as usual, I found out. I then returned to, and sat with[,] D^r Dawson for nearly an hour. W.C. took the reins at the door, & drove me to M^{rs} Smith, (R.N.) who was likewise out. [38] M^r Clarke jumped in at the back of the Carriage & came up with us. He & W.C. then went round to M^r Burnett’s, but the former soon came back to have a talk with me: and remained until 6 o’ –

The cushion is home; and is so handsome.

1st of September – Sunday. Before taking the children to Church, I wrote to M^r Massie, a little. W.C. returned home whilst we were there, & went off to luncheon with M^r & M^{rs} Roberts. D^r Hadley & I went up to M^{rs} Stonor’s after luncheon. D^r MacWharrie called.

I next went and sat some time with Miss Burnett, & Mary Anne, the latter being in bed. Our three friends dined here as usual, & only for my forgetfulness, M^r de Winton would also have given us that pleasure.

4th Wednesday. On Monday D^r Hadley, Louis, & I went for a ride; and in the evening, W.C. [39] and I went to Government House, to hear the “Bones” Serenaders. There was a goodly assembly and the Singers did their duty.

The Glee singers of the 99th were there likewise, & really sung very well. I was introduced to D^r Andrews, and we talked of D^r M^cTernan & his family.

Yesterday I had a ride with D^r Hadley.

Today has been too wet to venture out, excepting to see Miss Burnett this morning, & M^{rs} Curll this afternoon. Poor Miss Burnett had great grievances, as usual, to enumerate. Her spirit, poor soul! seems gone. Yet the one to cause so much misery now, should not have been a sister; & I must have a talk with Mary Anne about it. Miss M. Scott came to see me, and brought me two anti-macassars, made by herself. [39] M^{rs} Curll has heard from her brother from California.

M^r & M^{rs} Sharland come here tomorrow, & sleep here. The Ball at Government House takes place then. The Misses Schaw called, but I was at Miss Burnett's.

I've been reading such an interesting work, called "the old English gentleman", by M^r J. Mills; it is so delightfully written: and the Character in it, of the old Huntsman, is beautifully described.

W.C. dined at M^r Arnold's, & is just returned home in the Carriage: He says "poor Augusta" is very ill! I should not wonder at her at last catching him, but I hope not. 8th Sunday. On Thursday M^r & M^{rs} Sharland came in to town, and remained until late the following day. Miss Buckland & D^r Hadley dined with us likewise on Thursday.

[40] The latter left after we had gone up to dress for the Ball, but did not go there himself, being too poorly. I'm sure I would gladly have stayed at home with him, for I only remained at Government House from Ten until a little before 12 o'clock.

The room looked very pretty, but the ladies not as well as usual, with a few exceptions. M^{rs} Arnold & M^{rs} H. Kay both looked remarkably well. There were such quantities of young girls sitting on a Bench, and never getting a Partner the whole evening. Mary Schaw says she might as well have been at home. I came home with M^{rs} de Winton, as there was no inducement for me to remain; altho' I cannot complain of getting no Partners pour la Danse.

Friday I had a ride with D^r Hadley & Captain Twiss. Yesterday Mess^{rs} Clarke & Johnston joined our riding party. M^r Clarke dined with us on Friday; and Miss Buckland, yesterday.

[41] I had such quantities of Visitors yesterday: First came D^r Hadley & Captain Pratt; then D^r MacWharrie; M^{rs} Mason & two children next: After the lady had left, I escaped upstairs to dress for my ride = but "ring"! went the Bell, and M^{rs} Walker & Miss Chancey were announced. When I came down, I had to stand & have my face cut away at, whilst D^r MacWharrie told M^{rs} Walker what alterations to make to it.

After I returned from riding, M^r & M^{rs} de Winton called, & sat some time: and then Miss Buckland. Poor D^r Hadley could not come in the evening, he was too ill, & sent

me such a kind note; I was sure he was not well when we were riding, for he kept behind so much. I am so grieved whenever he is ill, for he is such an excellent, amiable creature. I am fonder every day of him; he has so many good qualities.

[42] I took the children to Miss Sorell's yesterday, & sat some time with her; I then went & called on M^{rs} Curll.

Today I have not been to Church, as I had an unpleasant complaint, rather.

After luncheon I went round M^r E. Bedford's garden with D^r Hadley; & then M^r & M^{rs} Curll & he walked up to Captain Pratt's, where we sat for a long time; & then paid a visit to Captⁿ Armstrong.

Mess^{rs} Clarke, de Winton; Captain Deering & D^r Hadley dined with us; & Miss Buckland came in the evening.

9th Monday. My first Visitors today, were M^{rs} Roberts & her sister M^{rs} ~~Vickery~~ Harrison.

W.C. drove me up to M^{rs} Dawson's to call on M^{rs} Walker. I sat for some time with M^{rs} Dawson, who is confined to her room. When I returned I found D^r Hadley here; & at ½ past 2 [43] o'clock we went for our ride. When I came home, I found Mary Anne had been to see me; and on looking from the door, I saw her just going over to the other side of the street, so I called her in; & she came to my room, whilst I was busy undressing. I'm glad I never believe the one side of the story, until I've heard both sides; for her statement seems very truthful.

10th Tuesday. The "Derwent" arrived today from England, and brings news of the "Calcutta". M^r E. Bedford has heard from his wife; & D^r Hadley from M^r Montgomerie, who still continues an Invalid. I had a very pleasing note from Miss Aplin, in which she thanks me for the Portraits of her Brothers; & kindly invites me to go and see her when I return to England. She tells me [44] the Doctor holds a Government appointment at Borneo; but does not like the Climate of that place half as well as Australia; & intends in two years more to go home, and bring his sisters out to settle with him in N.S.Wales. M^r Dyson wrote to her from California, & speaks as tho' he were likely to make money.

The "Emma" is in, but I've no letters as yet.

Mary Anne came this morning, and read to me all the letters & statements connected with the ugly quarrels which have lately existed in her family. I think M^{rs} J. Burnett the "Defaulter" = and not Mary Anne.

W.C. drove her into town, after my telling him my opinion on the matter.

By the bye, he had a letter from M^r Colquhoun, in which he sends me his best love! !
Oh! I never knew he had any!

[45] The Misses Sorell called just before I went out riding; and D^r MacWharrie came in at luncheon. He has been passing the evening with me. W.C. dined at Mess. Tomorrow we dine at D^r Dawson's; and on Friday at D^r Agnew's.

M^{rs} Walker was here this afternoon, and altered my profile again: this time, it is like me.

D^r Hadley, Louis & I went for a very fast ride.

Reading "Polynesian Life", by Herman Melville; it is interesting to me, as I've seen so much of Savage life, & can understand it.

12th Thursday. Yesterday I walked into town with M^{rs} Stonor, & we returned in a Cab, as it rained. In the morning I drove with Annie to sit with M^{rs} Frazer, who still continues in bed. We dined at D^r Dawson's; There were 15 persons at table. The evening passed pleasantly; He is a delightful companion. Madame, who has been on the Sick list, came to dinner, & [46] altho' she eat little, she amused herself very well in the other way. He appeared vexed; & said once to me, when she was drinking Ale, "She must be very ill, to give up that propensity"! I never saw him so annoyed.

Today D^r Hadley came for a few moments, & then left; M^r Johnston then came, & told me the Band was going to play. I was delighted, and we rode up to M^{rs} Dawson's, to tell the young people, whom we met on the road. We had a short chat with D^r & M^{rs} Dawson, & then went a walk down into town; (à cheval) – Coming back, D^r Hadley said after passing the Barrack Gate, "Would you like to dismount, & walk up with M^{rs} Stonor"? It sounded to me as tho' he were not going with us, so I came home huffed! He has been here tonight, but I'm still vexed with him.

[47] Captain Pratt called today. M^r E. Bedford too, sat some time with me this evening. W.C. is dining at M^r Burnett's.

14th Saturday. Yesterday the Hunt took place at Bagdad; the day was very hot, so the sport was not so good. Captain Pratt entertained Sir William very much with his prattle. A very ludicrous affair took place the day before with the same gentleman. He was invited to luncheon at Webb's, and when he went there, he found M^r Blackwood, whom, it was arranged, should personate M^r T. Downie – the man who killed the Hounds. When Captⁿ Pratt entered the room, M^r Blackwood said "I'm glad I killed those Hounds of M^r Sharland's" – "Oh!" said our friend, "if you're the gentleman who

did that, it is time for me to go; I don't keep such company"! [48] As he said "It was a dangerous joke; as he was about to knock his two eyes into one"!

I drove the children to M^{rs} White's, & called on M^{rs} Dawson, who was going for a drive with her "good Man". M^{rs} Stonor went with me into town, & I tried to match M^{rs} Sharland's ribbon for her; I next went to see Prior, who is very ill in bed.

When we came home, we were met by Captⁿ Deering, who ran with open arms, to assist M^{rs} Stonor out of the carriage. He came in for a short time, & we were joined by D^r MacWharrie, who jumped in at the window.

Soon after they left, W.C. returned from the Hunt. We dined at D^r Agnew's, in company with Captⁿ & M^{rs} Booth; M^r & M^{rs} Arnold; Major Last; Mess^{rs} Bedford & Clarke. We had a tolerable evening, & came home at Eleven, [49] accompanied by M^r E. Bedford; who declared that I ought to be annihilated for keeping so desperately a serious face, whilst M^{rs} Agnew was singing. Oh! how she did murder "Ole Virginny"! and she would insist on my joining in the Chorus.

Captain Deering & I took charge of Misses Scott & L. Walker today; and we were joined in our ride by M^r Fleming. We went to the Ridsen Ferry. Miss Buckland dined with us; & I was taken so ill at dinner, that even my politeness could scarcely keep me at table.

15th Sunday. It completely escaped my mind to set down the funny anecdote which took place the other evening, on our return from D^r Agnew's. The Cab in which we were, had the most unpleasant smell; & after we came to the house-door, & the Vehicle had left, I said to William, "Did you observe a [50] most unpleasant smell in that Cab; I'm afraid some person ^{has} had ~~the~~ a misfortune in it"? "By Jove! Yes! Oh! horrid." said W.C. "Hoigh, Cab"! The Driver returned and William explained to him – "'Tis the hopes, as had Sidlitz powders, Sir"! said the Man. — — Colonial.

I've been so very unwell all day, & have not had my usual little strole, even.

D^r Hadley came at luncheon, & remained until 3 o'clock. Annie went to Miss Burnett's; Louis, to M^{rs} Curll's.

Our three friends dined here, as usual; & Miss Buckland too. Altho' so ill, I've laughed myself nearly into Fits at those 4 Boys of men; they went on with such Antics with W.C.'s scarf!

[51] I've written to M^{rs} W. Rutledge; and commenced a letter to Robert Massie.

18th Wednesday. W.C. dined at home on Monday, at the Mess, yesterday. Tonight he is gone to the Theatre. Since Saturday I've been too ill to get out, & the weather has been very stormy & wet. Mt Wellington is covered with snow today, and looks very well. This morning I walked down with Mary Anne to speak to her sister. I could do nothing, they were both so full of recrimination! It is a sad affair for two sisters to quarrel so terribly; in fact this one is a finale to all kindness of feeling.

Captain Pratt had an oyster luncheon here today, & afterwards sung me "Ole Virginny", to the tune of any other song I might fancy. D^r Hadley, who sat quiet all the time of the [52] performance, burst out laughing at the end, when Captⁿ Pratt said very quaintly to me, "Ah! that's the tune, sure enough; I never lose a tune when I once hear it"! "It is true enough," said I; "but how can you be expected to lose a tune you never had"? He took the repartee very well.

D^r MacWharrie called to see Edward this morning, & upon going away, locked me in to the back room. This afternoon he came whilst M^{rs} Walker was here. He passed the evening with me. D^r Hadley wrote me a kind note tonight, saying I must have found him grumpy this afternoon during our ride; but he is not well — excepting to go to the Theatre. He was indeed queer; but I know he cannot help it: and I often think how infectious the want of conversation is; for [53] positively, I can scarcely speak sometimes to him, as I imagine he would not like it.

The Journals & letter are fastened up to go by the "Emma" tomorrow.

Some other time I must note down M^{rs} Walker's journey to "Oyster Cove"; & the case of clairvoyance there. Her upset — & —.

22nd Sunday. On Thursday William gave a Quadrille Party, and there [were] 54 persons here. I must admit, with the rest, that it went off very merrily. We had 5 of the Band, & they played very well. I had no new Guests, with the exception of D^{rs} Butler & Andrews; & M^r and M^{rs} J. Dunn. We kept it up until nearly 3 o'clock.

On Friday D^{rs} Agnew & MacWharrie administered Chloroform to me again, and took out 3 teeth. I suffered a good deal after the [54] operation, but was perfectly unconscious ~~of~~^{at} the time. After being placed on my bed, I remained fully two hours in a trance; one of which, I imagine, I could hear every word that was spoken. M^{rs} Walker was present, and was rather upset with it; but I heard her say she would like to see a leg taken off under the influence of Chloroform! She is a strange women. She & her sister-in-law called at Ten, to ask how I was, which was very kind.

Yesterday I was very ill all day, but more especially at night; In the morning D^r Hadley called for some ten minutes, and then went off to M^{rs} Dawson's; he returned in about an hour, & said he was going with her to ride to Brown's River; I thought to myself "how kind you are to leave me"; but said "Oh! go, of course; I can go out with D^r McWharrie – and away [55] he went; & I saw no more of him, until nearly 6 o'clock. Poor D^r MacWharrie! he is always near me when ill, and sits by me, & nurses me so affectionately! Saying little, but doing so much! He went with me to ride; and we walked our horses to the Engineer Office, and then round by the Wharf to the Sandy Bay Turnpike; where he visited a Patient.

After my return, I put on my Dressing-Gown, and laid down on my bed. Miss Buckland dined with W.C. and I kept the Sofa, after the dinner was over. When W.C. took her home, I asked him to go & get me some medicine from D^r Hadley; & this gentleman came down to see me.

I had a long letter from M^r Thompson, dated 19th July; & written from Tahiti. He gives a very good description of the Scenery of the places in which he has been since he left, and [56] seems still very true to Hobart Town. The Maeander was nearly swamped at Tahiti; & he tells me the Gun deck was under water. His letter is dated No. 3, but I've never yet received No.2.

We had a letter from Harriet & Woodward; they both attack me for extravagance; & say they will not advance any more money until I go home.

Our three friends dined with us today; & I was much amused by a scene between W.C. Captⁿ Deering, & D^r Hadley, on the score of Old "Rangy-tangy"! I went to see M^{rs} Stonor, & found her in bed, so I sat with her for some time. I then went down to Miss Burnett's; they were both there, when I first went, but the elder one went with M^{rs} Maclean to Church. [57] Mary Anne took me up to their room to show me a letter of M^{rs} F. Smith's, in which she contradicts ever having heard M. A. say anything to her sister's prejudice! I would not take her word, now, in a Court of Justice! She told me distinctly here the other night, that M. A. had so often gone to her, & tried to set her against her; & this she told Miss Burnett! She called here yesterday with Miss A. Sorell; & Captain Deering & my brother went with them in her Cab, for a drive.

Today Capt^{ns} Pratt & Deering called soon after Church; and M^r Johnston later in the day. M^{rs} Roberts, her sister & two children called likewise; and Miss Buckland. And now I'm very tired, so I shall close this.

25th Wednesday. Last evening, we went to M^{rs} F. Smith's; the commencement of the Soriée was very dismal; [58] but when the Dancing began, it was all right – and off they went! So I played every dance but two, (Polka & Valse) and at ½ past 12 o'clock, walked home with D^r Hadley.

There were about 25 persons there.

Yesterday morning I drove Miss Sorell as far as Prior's; he is better, poor fellow. We next went to M^{rs} Dawson's, & found D^r Hadley just coming out. I tried some Quadrilles with her; & Miss Sorell amused herself by laughing at the fat little lady's shoulders, on the move.

Annie went to M^{rs} Smith's, and returned in the evening. Louis walked down with Miss Sorell, and stayed until after 6 o'clock.

This morning, after lessons, I drove up to sit with M^{rs} Roberts, who has an attack of dysentery. On coming down the hill, I met M^{rs} Stonor, so I brought her in the carriage to Macquarie Street.

[59] M^{rs} J. Dunn, D^r & M^{rs} Richardson called whilst I was out riding today. I drove Miss Buckland into town this morning.

I received a letter from M^r Rutledge today, enclosing one from M^r Baxter to him; in which he agrees to all my wishes relating to the money, etc.

Miss Bostock was married on the 5th inst; I suppose to A. Hunter. I posted a letter to M^{rs} Rutledge, before receiving her husband's.

D^r Hadley & Captⁿ Pratt dined with us; & the latter went home soon after dinner: we had a musical evening.

26th Thursday. Just returned from Govt House; it is the first time I ever dined there: and I found it less stupid than I imagined. Captⁿ Smith took me into dinner, & M^r J. Abbott sat on my right hand; so we renewed our acquaintance. There were 20 persons present; and the table, altho' not as handsomely [60] served as some I've seen, was very prettily arranged, & very good attendance. We left at ½ past 10: – and as William wished to go to M^r Clarke's to smoke, I drove M^r Frazer up thus far; & even allowed him to smoke.

29th Sunday. Friday & Saturday both wet days; & not feeling at all well, I did not go out.

Today I walked to M^{rs} Frazer's, & right tired I was when I got there. The little lady is still on the Sofa, looking very interesting.

I had three letters from Robert Massie on Friday; one of which contains my Character, a little bit exaggerated. I'm sure I don't know what I wrote to him to cause his vexation but I fancy he has misunderstood me.

Our three friends dined here as usual; & M^r Johnston made up the 4th. We had a laugh during dinner at the meaning of the word "Blaze", [61] I, giving as my definition of the term, Captain Deering! They then laughed at him for being "used-up", but I denied that being my meaning of it.

Miss Buckland came in before dinner, & made herself quite disagreeable about coming in. The fact is this: it is a gentleman's party, & they do not like her coming in. I told her this, yet for all this, she wished to come. My pride would come into play I think, in such a case.

Tuesday 1st of October. Yesterday morning at 12 o'clock D^r Hadley & W.C. left this for Bothwell. It was such a good joke to hear poor D^r Hadley as the time advanced, to start; he kept pretty patient until within 5 minutes of 12; when he said "Had you not better put on your boots"? W.C. [who] was writing English letters by the Marmion, said "There go; Don't wait for me; I'd rather be late for Sir William than [62] be worried to death by you"! They started tho' in time.

I have had a long letter today from M^r Thompson; written at Norfolk Island & N. Zealand: It is No.2. I sent one to him today; and one to Woodward likewise, by the Marmion.

I wrote a long letter to M^r Massie. No. 7

Margaret sent me a letter today; & an Enclosure to D^r Salmon, for me, of £2.10.

Yesterday I took a long ride with D^r & M^{rs} Dawson, Misses Scott & L. Walker. We went to the Ferry; & it was too far for my strength.

M^{rs} Curll was here today; and the Misses Burnett. I have been dining at D^r Dawson's; & D^r MacWharrie walked home with me; & now then for Bed.

4th Friday. On Wednesday morning I heard the bad tidings of poor D^r Hadley's having the previous day had a fall, whilst [63] hunting; & his having broken his Collar bone, & sprained his wrist. It threw a great damp over my spirits, & until today, I've not ventured out riding; & have refused to dine out three times. It seems however, he is not so much hurt as I thought, for he was at the breakfast table next morning; & instead of coming into town today with D^r Richardson in his Carriage; he prefers rioting out the week at Hutton Park.

W.C. and he both wrote to me yesterday. Today they hunt again at Bothwell; & give a dinner to M^r Sharland.

Yesterday Misses Scott & Walker passed the day with me; the Misses came at 2 o'clock, & sat until 4, when we all went into town; Ada Sorell dined here. Captain Deering & M^r Johnston called just before dinner.

[64] M^r Johnston wrote me a kind little note before dinner today, containing news of the Invalide.

Today Louis & I went on the Beach, where I had a good gallop. After coming home, I took Annie into town, to look for a Doll's bonnet, but could not find one.

Reading "the O'Donoghue"; & like it.

1[] Monday. I must not look at the date of the last day on which I wrote in this; I've been lazy = & am sorry for it.

First then; I've had letters from M^r Rutledge, Margaret & M^{rs} M^cLeod; the two former are answered: the latter never will be.

Yesterday Captains Pratt & Deering, D^r Hadley, and M^r Clarke dined with us.

D^r Hadley is getting better very slowly, owing to his being so fidgetty; and today he has been in a dirty, hot, smoky skittle ground; positively drinking hot gin and water, too!

[65] So much for his preference of Gentlemen' and Ladies' society!

On Friday M^r & M^{rs} Arnold, the two Mess^{rs} Bisdee, Miss Sorell & M^r Clarke dined here; & in the evening Miss Buckland, Captⁿ Deering & M^r Johnston came in.

Miss Buckland dined with us this evening; & seemed horrified at finding Mess^{rs} Wilmott; Clarke, J. Dunn, & M^r White talking to me in the garden! W.C. went at 9 o'clock to D^r Hadley's, to play Whist.

Poor Miss Burnett! I went to see her yesterday, and found her in miserable spirits, owing to her having received a letter from Major Ainslie, in which he gives up his Engagement with her. He is a bad man, to treat her so; = & will meet his reward some day.

I'm reading "Caleb Stukely"; & do'nt think very much of it.

[66] I must record a Colonial anecdote, which occurred to me today. I called on my way into town to ask them to go, too: When I rang the bell, I heard some one distinctly say "We are none of us at home"! – and the servant, of course, told me this. On my way home, I saw Captⁿ Deering & M^r Johnston on their way in; & M^r Clarke told me that when I was refused admittance, he was there, romping with them; and they had

pulled one another's hair down, so could not be seen! So much for them; I shall not call again.

Saturday. I have been so completely & fully occupied lately, that I really could not find time to write in my poor, neglected Journal. Yet, with all my pursuits, there have been lazy moments; amounting in all, most likely, to hours! [67] Frequently I think such happy, blissful, moments, as I do sometimes pass, can never return! – First and foremost I must tell of my dream of this morning; Methought Captain Deering, D^r Hadley & M^r Johnstone were serving in Lewis' shop; & the former of these three making me try on some “very becoming caps”! After I left the house, W.C. and the children, and I were taken prisoners by the French; and I slept in a kind of Stable: Whilst musing on the manner in which I might effect my escape, a black man of immense stature, (so like M^r Todd, too!) came in, and sat down on the foot of my mattress; After rocking himself to and fro for a little time, he sprang towards me and said “Je suis Émile de Girardin, toujours prêt dans votre Service; il faut que vous m’embrassez; alors vous sortirez de ces lieux.” “Vous! de Girardin! Non, non ; [68] Aussi c’est ma soeur, et non pas moi que vous aimez!” Il repliqua = “C’était toujours toi!”⁶⁸ I began to think how I could possibly get out of his power, when I saw M^r Clarke sliding thro’ a small aperture in the wall = & he had on his funny old hat: he said “Oh! I’m coming to you Annie; who so fit to take charge of you as I am”? I could not suppress my laughter; but on turning round to see for de Girardin, I found D^r Hadley sitting where he had been. – Oh! I felt so happy; & I threw myself on the matrass [sic] by his side; – and – woke up!

On Friday last, we had a Polka here; there were 25 persons, and they kept it up until 2 o’clock. When they were leaving, I called M^r Johnston into the Drawing Room to give him a message for D^r Hadley, who was not well enough to come: D^r MacWharrie came in to see what I [69] I [sic] wanted with the worthy ‘Adjutant,’ and forgot to take off his hat; so I turned round & said “Bonnet him”! Whereupon M^r Johnston sprung at the M.D. and knocked his hat into all kinds of shapes. How I laughed! it did look so comical!

⁶⁸ I am Émile de Girardin, always ready at your service; you must kiss me; then you will leave these places [parts]. You! De Girardin! No, no; also it is my sister, and not me who you love! He replied = it was always you (French).

2nd [November] Saturday. It is quite shameful my being so long in writing up my Journal: and altho' each night as I go to bed, I say "Well, I must write tonight"; still, I find upon examination, that nearly a fortnight has elapsed since I did so.

M^{rs} Dawson gave a delightful party on Wednesday week, at which I remained until ¼ past 1 o'clock, when I returned with D^r Hadley, who was sleeping in W.C.'s room, his own being whitewashed, etc.

Last night we dined at M^r Stonor's, and found 9 other persons there. [70] M^{rs} J. Burnett returned with me at 10 o'clock; after which W.C. went to D^r MacWharrie's, but did not remain there long. He, le Médecin, paid me a visit on Tuesday evening and remained so late, that I put out the lights, and left him alone in the Drawing Room: In a short time after, having put on my Dressing Gown, & fancying I heard the front door slam, I crept down stairs quietly in the dark, to see if the door were properly shut; & finding it so, I ventured in to the Room, when he put out his hand, & seized mine. I soon got off tho' altho' rather frightened at the time! He is very strange & passionate.

D^r Hadley is getting very slowly better.

There has been such a rumpus between M^r Burnett, D^r Lillie, & W.C. Indeed it is not yet settled.

I had a long & affectionate letter from dearest Jessie yesterday; in which she begs of me to go and live with them for a Year or two.

[71] I had an equally affectionate letter from Robert Massie, in which he reminds me of his name being Robert. He always was a strange creature; but I'm very fond of him.

I answered his letter immediately. – No.6 – Miss Scott has left M^{rs} Dawson's, since yesterday and lives in the Crescent, with her three brothers. She is to be pitied; for the eldest is known to be a Drunkard = & yesterday when W.C. was at M^{rs} Dawson's, he came in; & W.C. says he smelt so terribly of Spirits.

This afternoon M^{rs} Macdonald called; D^r MacWharrie was here on his way into town; & Captain Deering & M^r Clarke accompanied me to M^r Bicheno's, where we remained upwards of an hour. We saw some beautiful Engravings of Landseer's; & two Art-Union – "The smile" and "the Frown"; likewise a most [72] elegant picture of "Sabrina"; being surrounded by beautiful Nymphs, who are taking her to their "Caverns pure & deep".

I was much entertained the other day by reading in some book, a dispute between some Stage Coach proprietor and another person; as to the ~~poss~~ probable time which first saw such a Vehicle in use. "Oh!" said the Coacher, "they were used in the

time of Elizabeth, because I've read of one Will Shakespeare, who says "All the World's a Stage; & all the Men & Women are Passengers"! Bien bon.⁶⁹

3rd Sunday. Rain, which has been so much wanted, has at last, come; & thankful we should be for it; had it not come, the Crops in some parts of the Country would have been quite destroyed:= and as it is, it comes too late for some.

[73] Dear M^r Archer died last Monday week; he will be deeply regretted, he was so good a man. Woolmers is left to little Tom; Fairfield to Joe; and Cheshunt to William. M^r Davies wrote to tell us.

Miss L. Walker leaves tomorrow, for Rhodes.

Last evening Miss Buckland dined with us, & D^r MacWharrie came in the evening: So he took her home. I felt his kindness in leaving sooner than he generally does. I wonder if he would study his Wife's wishes as much as he does mine?

Today I answered Jessie's letter, in a very long one. This week I must sit down & write to M^r Thompson.

Captain Deering, Mess^{rs} Johnston & Clarke, & D^r Hadley dined with us; & they have just gone. I went with D^r Hadley to M^r Bedford's, and got such a beautiful bouquet.

[74] I've had such a Diamond ring given me, by dear D^r Hadley; it is too valuable, that's all: I would refuse such gifts, were it not that he would only give it (the money) to something less, or somebody more, undeserving.

On Wednesday, D^r & M^{rs} Agnew, D^r MacWharrie, D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} Brownrigg & Macdonald dined with us. On Friday we dined with M^r & M^{rs} Stonor.

I am reading "Memoirs of Charles Matthews," written by his second Wife.

M^r Akers was here on Friday, and has promised to lend me a book. On Wednesday I drove D^r Hadley to Captain Twiss', and had a chat with M^{rs} Twiss, for some time.

4th Monday. Such a glorious wet day! consequently, I've had no Visitors. D^r Hadley sat [75] here reading to me from 1 until 4 o'clock; Bless him! he is an amiable, kind hearted Man; & I prize his friendship, altho' he does not seem to think so.

W.C. dined alone with me; & he read to me until nearly Eleven. I sent M^{rs} Chiene's box today, by the Launceston Coach.

Last evening I was amused by M^r Clarke's quietly kneeling down at my feet, and with his elbows resting on the arms of my Chair, telling me some story from New Zealand! I could not listen tho', for I had my eye on D^r Hadley, who very queerly sat

⁶⁹ Well good (French).

himself on the stool by my side, and evidently felt ill at ease, with his “Friend” so close.

At last, when a pause was made, he filled it by saying “Well, it’s past your time to retire”; evidently excessively glad to take the Danger from me. [76] Ah! I am quite safe = I do not care if I never saw a Man, excepting the one I love: and so I am not a Coquette.

5th Guy Fawkes day – and Tuesday. It has been a gloriously wet day; and I think the Farmers will now say “Hold enough”!

W.C. was on a Court-Martial in the morning; and after 1 o’clock, remained at home with me, & read “Matthews’ Diary” when we were alone. D^r Hadley came to luncheon, and stayed until very nearly 4 o’clock: he asked W.C. to dine with him which he did. M^r J. Burnett came in during all the wet; & brought some letter for W.C.’s inspection: they then commenced abusing D^r Lillie & Mary Anne, but W.C. did not do so, nearly as much, as the affectionate Brother!

It seems Mary Anne is gone to Richmond.

[77] Soon after, M^r Clarke came in, and he & mon frère⁷⁰ had a great argument relative to M^r Burnett’s case. They both dined at Mess.

7th Thursday. I must first note the birth of M^{rs} Curll’s little daughter; born this morning. The poor little woman has had a long time of it. D^r MacWharrie came & told me about 11 o’clock; & soon after, M^r Curll. I drove out to see her at 12 – and called on M^{rs} Stonor on my way: She has her Mother & Sister now staying with her.

Yesterday M^r Macdonald came & boxed with W.C. for upwards of an hour. And last night, he & D^r Hadley painted the Undertakers over with red paint: unfortunately, it was easily washed out this morning: but old Millington says whoever did it, ought to be hanged! and has offered £10 reward to the informer of who committed the trespass.

[78] M^r & Miss Scott dined with us yesterday, and M^r Clarke too. In the evening, Miss Buckland came. Captain Deering kindly rode with me Yesterday.

When I returned this morning from M^{rs} Curll’s, I found M^{rs} J. Burnett & Mary Schaw here; the former asked us to dine there on Saturday. D^r Hadley had brought me Glover’s Sketch-book to look at.

⁷⁰ My brother (French).

After my fair friends had left, I went with W.C. to call on M^{rs} Bishop; she is staying at M^r Maclean's. She is a lively French Créole; and altho' far from pretty, she is piquante in her expression & manner. Miss Maclean was in the room, & has very ladylike, agreeable manners & style.

In the afternoon we went to hear the Band: there were a good many persons there.

[79] We dined alone, but D^r MacWharrie came in at tea time, and remained until Eleven, when I said "Good Night"; & W.C. is gone home with him. And now to bed. 8th Friday. Such a lovely day! After I had finished the children's lessons, I walked down to call on M^{rs} Agnew; & sat there some time: her sister is staying with her, & is pretty.

On my return, I found D^r Hadley & Miss Buckland here. W.C. went out in the Carriage, Captⁿ Deering luncheoned with me.

At 4 o'clock I rode out with Mess^{rs} Clarke, Johnston, & Captain Deering; we had a quiet, agreeable ride, & returned at nearly ½ past 6 o'clock. W.C. dined with the P.S.

I must not forget to send M^r Bicheno some of my pickled walnuts, they are so good.

[80] 9th Saturday. In the morning I took Louis to Miss Sorell's; and then drove Miss Ada first to Lewis's, where I purchased two dresses; & then to M^{rs} Curll's: I went up to see the little woman, & was glad to get out of the room again, for she was so dirty! Upon my word, I begin to think that she has never moved since her accouchement – not even to wash her face!

Ada Sorell returned with me, & we found M^r Macdonald with W.C. They boxed for an hour, and after that W.C. drove Ada & Annie into town. This was a reconciliation between these two. I cannot imagine what pleasure there is in continually being at variance with some one or other; which William invariably is.

Captain Deering & M^r Johnston accompanied Miss Buckland & me in a ride to the Ferry. W.C. & I dined at M^r J. Burnett's; where we met [81] Mess^{rs} Macdonald & L. Smith; Captⁿ Rankmore & Mary Schaw. There was music in the evening, & M^{rs} J. Burnett sang so prettily. Miss Burnett came in the evening. How very handsome M^r Macdonald is! His face is so thoroughly amiable in it's expression; & he is so manly. He is just the outward man that I so admire – A perfect Apollo!

I left them all tho', at a little before Eleven; my heart was not with the party. I wish now, that I had remained longer; for W.C. went back, & on his second return, he

had an encounter with some man, and during a scuffle, fell, and has hurt his leg very much.

10th Sunday. Louis & I went to Church this morning; it was very warm: and upon leaving, we heard that the youngest of M^r Allport's children, had just been drowned. Poor little fellow! [82] he appears to have gone down with his boat, (altho' forbidden to do so,) to a pond in their garden; and upon his being missed from breakfast, his Papa went to look for him: he saw the child's cap on the water, but still never thought of the little wearer, being below.

When he returned to the house, he happened to ask the next eldest what cap his brother had on? and when he was told the one, the whole truth flashed across his mind; & he rushed down to the water, followed by M^{rs} and Miss Allport. He jumped into the pond, and soon found the dead body of his child; & M^{rs} Allport received it from him. What different sensations must have been caused in the Mother, between the first & the last time that child had been placed in her arms! It must indeed be a sad thing to see a loved Object unable to answer our caress at any time; [83] yet how much more so, when we think ~~th~~ it never will do so again!

Poor W.C. was obliged to have on leeches, his ankle is so bad.

We had Mess^{rs} Talbott, Rankmore, Clarke & Johnston; Captain Deering & D^r Hadley at dinner.

11th Monday. Miss Buckland dined with us. M^r & M^{rs} Bishop called. We rode with Mess^{rs} Johnston & Clarke.

13th Wednesday. Drove to see M^{rs} Curll; she is doing very well; it is her 21st Birthday. They wish me to be Godmother to the Baby; but I said I would only be Proxy.

W.C. was very good yesterday, & did not go to Mess; On Monday the Misses Sorell passed all the after part of the day here; D^r Hadley drove Annie & I out; first to Captⁿ Twiss', where I left her, & then to the Government Gardens. [84] There are some beautiful flowers at the latter place.

15th Friday. On Wednesday M^r Johnston rode out with Miss Buckland & I; Captain Deering could not accompany ~~ied~~ us, as D^r Hadley rode Bessie up to New Norfolk & back again – by way of trial!

Yesterday he & M^r White dined here; in the evening W.C. had letters by the "William Jardine", from M^{rs} Jacquier & Mina: they tell him of the Officer being on his passage out here, who is to relieve him. So we shall soon go, now.

I've written by Sydney, to M^r Thompson – No.4 – Yesterday I called on M^{rs} Richardson; & on M^{rs} de Winton. I finished "Hyperion".

This morning I went with Augusta Sorell to buy some pinafores for Louis; we then went to M^{rs} Dawson's, where we sat some time. On my return, I found D^r Hadley here. We were good friends today; he is a dear, amiable man.

[85] Marianne called this morning, & gave me a trinket for my Birthday, ie. "Faith, Hope, and Charity". The Misses ~~Sorell~~ Sorell came to tea; and worked for me. Miss Buckland sat some time in the afternoon with me, & was telling me some grievances of her's. I attempted a ride with D^r Hadley & M^r Clarke; but it rained too heavily.

How I shall regret this place! My eyes ache, so I must to bed.

18th Monday. On Saturday I received a most affectionate letter from Robert Massie; it was dated 16th October – from Tenterfield, N. England. Today I've answered him in No.7.

William brought Annie home in the afternoon; and the two Misses L. & L. Priaulx passed it with them. I went for a ride with D^r Hadley. Just before dinner, I found M^r & M^{rs} Sharland, [86] and M^r Clarke in the Drawing Room; & W.C. went down to the Cottage with them to dinner: so D^r MacWharrie & I dined alone. It is nine weeks since D^r Hadley passed the evening with me; & we used to have such nice little chats! Well, we shall soon have none.

I wrote to Maria.

19th Tuesday. Miss Burgess sat here this morning, and knitted; Miss Scott came in likewise; Then M^{rs} Agnew.

I rode out in the afternoon with D^r Hadley, Captⁿ Twiss & M^r Johnston. W.C. dined at Mess, and I was alone this evening.

It would [be] absurd my attempting to Enumerate all the things I've done today; there was one however, left undone, which I would gladly have fulfilled.

I am reading a work of Cooper's, entitled "The ways of the hour" = it is nicely written.

[87] Jones' ideas of being beliked, are extremely good; he had another friend here last night, & he was sent to the Guard Room! So much for Company and Beer!

M^r Clarke was here some time, & took my lock of hair, which D^r Hadley unfortunately hooked out.

20th Wednesday. After breakfast I went into M^r E. Bedford's; cut some flowers, had a chat with the Papa, & petted the son. Next came lessons: then came my "Refresher", D^r

Hadley: and after luncheon, the Misses Sorell. I asked them to come & dine with us, which they did; and Miss Buckland & M^r Clarke came in, in the evening.

I wrote to M^{rs} Brown today.

Separation has taken place in Port Phillip, so M^r LaTrobe will now have his own sway there.

[88] D^r Hadley & I rode out; & visited M^r Dickenson's flower garden.

22nd ~~Saturday~~ Friday. Yesterday was the most unpleasantly windy, dusty, hot day I've experienced for many a month. I ventured to Miss Scott's in the afternoon, and found both she & her sister at home; so there I sat, for fully an hour.

Whilst I was away, D^r Hadley sent Lupden to tell me he was going out to ride; so when I returned, and heard the message, I got ready: & I sat with my Habit on, until near dinner time.

M^r Clarke came & took W.C. away to dinner; and then they went to the Theatre.

D^r MacWharrie came, and vainly urged my going to hear the Amateur Ethiopians: I sat by myself, and after moping & fretting for a long time, I went to work, and remained up until nearly 12 o'clock. I had a long, & [89] most affectionate letter from R. Massie; No.1 = I grieve to think his ideas & feelings are so very far from right with regard to me.

This morning I went to Lewis' with Misses Sorell & Buckland, and bought towelling, etc for the Voyage.

This afternoon M^r & M^{rs} Bishop called to look over the House: = and after they had gone, Mess^{rs} Johnston & Clarke & Captain Deering, came. We all went for a ride. D^r Hadley dined here.

24th Sunday. My Birthday. Before I rose this morning I had a dear little note from D^r Hadley, speaking as usual, all & everything that is affectionate & kind: and asking me to wear the handsome diamond ring he has given me.

Louis went to Church with the Priaulx's; & D^r Hadley & Captⁿ Pratt came to luncheon. I walked with the latter to M^{rs} Frazer's, & sat there some time. She is much better.

[90] Whilst I was out, W.C. came home: Edward told him that Jones had been taken to the Watch-house last night; & that he & William (M^r Dry's servant) had been taken, fighting! Before he expressed any sorrow for loss of his Cook, he said "And which got the best of it"? It is so thoroughly characteristic!

The Misses Scott paid me a visit: I asked them to dine here on Thursday.

M^r Clarke came & sat some time with me. He, Captⁿ Deering & Rankmore, and D^r Hadley dined with us; & Miss Buckland came in[,] in the evening.

Yesterday W.C. drove M^r Clarke & Annie up to New Norfolk; the latter is gone to stay with M^{rs} Marriott. W.C. goes up again tomorrow to New Norfolk, to a Pic-Nic. [91] D^r Hadley took Miss Buckland & I for a ride; the latter dined with me. D^r MacWharrie came in the evening, & sat until 3 o'clock! He took out my corn; & then amused himself tickling my foot. He really is a Dangerous man.

M^r Dry's house has been robbed.

Miss Buckland gave me a pretty silver arrow; & a tidy for my Cabin.

Saturday A week has passed since I wrote in this, and so quickly too!

On Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, I had my arm in a sling, having a bad gathering in the fore finger of my right hand: it was a great loss to me just now, as I'm rather busy. But I've had a still greater loss, in the society of dear D^r Hadley, who has kept his bed since Wednesday; he has the Mumps. [92] I sent M^r E. Bedford to see him, as I knew he was the only person, whose opinion he values in the way of medecine.

He is better today, I'm happy to say.

On Thursday M^{rs} de Gillam, Misses Scott, and M^r E. Bedford dined here.

Yesterday M^{rs} Roberts passed the afternoon with us; at least W.C. took the children & her for a drive of two hours, & I was glad to remain at home. M^r Clarke came & sat with me all the time; & the Misses Sorell part of it. Augusta is doing a slipper for me, of the Fox' head pattern. Mary Scott is netting me something for my head. M^r Roberts dined with us last night; & M^r Clarke & Miss Buckland, came in the evening. They remained very late.

[93] When my finger was painful, I got old Catharine to brush my hair; so she was saying she hoped I should meet her old Master in England – that his name was Plumbridge, that he was well connected; = “&,” she added; “he was in the House of Commons when I left, so I suppose by this time he is in the House of Lords, for I know he has good interest”! I consider this very good; but there [is] a better story, almost, told of Lady Pedder & M^{rs} Spode, which I must relate. These two Ladies went to a Pic-Nic in the Steamer “Derwent”, and happened to be seated next to each other. Lady Pedder commenced talking about the beauty of the Scenery, etc. M^{rs} Spode answered “Yes, Lady Pedder”; “Very much so, Lady Pedder”; for some time: at last she said “I think Lady Pedder, we have never been introduced to each other”? [94] “No!” responded her Ladyship; [“] but that makes no difference, M^{rs} Spode, as I've known

you so long as an old Colonist"! "Yes, but it does signify Lady Pedder," said M^{rs} Spode, "the usages of Society require an introduction, therefore let me introduce you to M^{rs} Spode"; Lady Pedder"! – and at the same time she gave a bend to her much astonished neighbour.

I answered M^r Massie's last long letter, dated 20th October, in No.8.
[94] 1st of December – Sunday. Miss Buckland rode with Captⁿ Deering & me yesterday, and dined here afterwards.

Today I went to Church, and lost my little Bible & prayer book, going there. I regret it so much, for dear M^r Lyttleton's (the Giver's) sake.

D^r Dawson called after church; then D^r MacWharrie; & I walked up with the latter to see M^{rs} de Winton. [95] He left me there, and M^r de Winton & I walked on the Flag Staff until M^r Macdonald came up for me. Just as we got to this end of the Square, D^r MacWharrie came out to meet us.

They sat some time here, & then went over to the Doctor's house; I started to M^{rs} Frazer's, & had not gone far, when they overtook me, & walked the rest of the way with me. I remained some time at M^{rs} Frazer's, & then called on M^r Stonor.

W.C. went to M^r Gregson's, & is only returned now, and it is past 12 o'clock. Captain Deering, Mess^{rs} Clarke & Johnston dined with me. Poor D^r Hadley is worse today: he wrote me such an affectionate note this morning! how I wish he were well again; – I do miss him so much; heaven bless him.

[96] 3rd Tuesday. Regatta-day – When William went a little before 1 o'clock to the Meeting of the Nobility & gentry, I drove to see dear D^r Hadley, with him & M^r Curll. The Invalide looks exceedingly delicate; but I was so glad to see his old kind face again!

I walked home; & D^r MacWharrie came in soon after. When the Carriage returned, I drove out to see M^{rs} Curll. She is looking well, & Baby is quite fat. Called on my way, to see M^{rs} Stonor, who is far from well. M^{rs} Priaulx came in, & sat for more than an hour: and at 6 o'clock M^r Clarke came & remained until after Nine.

There was a shocking accident occurred at the Regatta; one of the sailing boats went down with all her crew, 9 persons; & [97] only two Bodies were found; one of whom died soon after. Poor souls! in the midst of riot & merriment, to sink into Eternity without a moment's warning.

Yesterday I rode with Captⁿ Deering, Mess^{rs} Johnston & Clarke, & D^r MacWharrie: we went to see the Regatta ground, as we came home.

M^r Dry came up yesterday morning, as I was at breakfast; Miss Buckland, too. The former drove me to M^{rs} Dawson's. He dined with us.

W.C. went home with the Roberts', and is not yet home, so I suppose he is staying at M^r Clarke's tonight.

8th Sunday. I've not been in spirits or humour to write in this book for the past week; D^r Hadley has been seriously ill, & [98] therefore I have taken very little pleasure in anything.

[98] xOn Tuesday the Regatta took place, & a most melancholy accident likewise: one of the sailing boats sunk, & 5 poor men were drowned in her; & another who was found, & brought on shore, died soon after.

M^r Clarke came here at 6 – & I find I've noted this before!! — x

A sad report is abroad respecting M^{rs} R. Talbott; on dit (M^r Gregson) that she was seen by a prisoner servant, to hold “converse criminal” with M^r T. Gregson Jn^r.: & that owing to this, she had to write to M^r Talbott, then in Hobart Town, & tell him of the *méchanceté*⁷¹ of the said gentleman; & professing great horror of the event. But the other report (from M^r Talbot) says [99] that she had to shut herself in her own bed room with her female servant; & threaten all kinds of things against the offender. There is sure to be a terrible exposé whichever way it turns.

On Thursday I rode to the Band with M^r Johnston; there were not many persons ~~therefo~~ there. The Gardens look beautifully.

Yesterday Captain Deering, D^r MacWharrie & M^r Clarke accompanied Miss Buckland & I in our ride to Risden.

The Windermere came in today; Captⁿ Tylee arrived in her, & dined with us. He is very quiet, and seems in bad health & spirits. Mess^{rs} Clarke & Johnston & Captⁿ Deering dined with us; Miss Buckland came in the evening; & they did not leave until 12 o'clock. I had a queer little [100] chat for one minute with him, whilst Miss Buckland went up for her parasol; & in that minute more was said than I ever heard him say before!

M^r Maclean sat a long time with me this afternoon, & was so very agreeable.

M^r Macdonald went with me to M^r Bedford's this afternoon.

Captain Pratt & D^r MacWharrie sat here some time.

I had a note from dear D^r Hadley this evening; Heaven grant his recovery.

⁷¹ Wickedness (French).

10th Tuesday. Yesterday William drove D^r Hadley out a little way in the Domain, & then here. He looks so ill! and is sadly reduced in his strength. He remained here some time; & I was so pleased to see him again.

I put on leeches to my side, so I did not ride. Captⁿ Deering & M^r Clarke called. [101] This morning I drove up early to M^{rs} Dawson's, in the vain hope of asking D^r Dawson for leave of absence for my dearest friend; somehow I could not find an opportunity, & he went off to his Office.

D^r Hadley came at 1 – and remained until 4 o'clock; he fell asleep; and started so nervously several times. He is in shocking spirits, poor soul!

I went up stairs to dress for my ride, and M^r & M^{rs} Smith called; M^{rs} Agnew too, came up stairs & sat whilst I was dressing. She & her sister drank tea here. Miss Buckland brought in her work, & sat some time.

Captain Deering, Mess^{rs} Johnston & Macdonald rode with me to Ridsen; & we returned at ½ past 6 o'clock. D^r MacWharrie came in after 9 = & escorted the ladies home [102] a little before Eleven. M^r Clarke came in at 10 – and left before 12 o'clock. The “Emma” is in, & I may expect letters from Robert Massie.

The Slippers are finished, & I shall leave them with M^r Macdonald for D^r Hadley. There is likely to be a desperate affray with the Gregson & Talbot factions.

18th Wednesday. I arrived at the Deanery only yesterday; but found all my friends here quite well, in fact looking better than I have, seen them for years. M^r Davies kindly came for me to M^{rs} Chiene's, to whose house I had gone immediately on my reaching Perth, by the Mail.

To tell the tale correctly, I must go back to some previous days, during which I have been unable to enter my movements in this Vol:

[103] First then: I had a long letter from Robert, in [which] he again begs for my likeness; and one from dear Marion, containing a song, & likewise requesting my portrait. I'm sure I do'nt know where I can get it taken; I mean faithfully.

The “Emma” and “Shamrock” have both left, & me, unable to answer these dear friends: they will think it strange.

On Saturday D^r Hadley & Captain Pratt, accompanied Miss Buckland & I in a ride; the gayer two rode on to Ridsen, whilst we two, less merry, remained behind. Miss Buckland and D^r Hadley dined with us, & the Misses Sorell came in the evening.

Sunday 5 gentlemen dined with us; after dinner M^r Clarke came out first; but was soon followed by D^r Hadley. They remained until late. M^r Clarke stayed after the others left. – & as he was going, D^r MacWharrie came over to say Good Night!

[104] Monday morning we were all up very early, and started a few minutes before six, in the Carriage, to go by the Coach to Longford. W.C. drove me, & we took up D^r Hadley at the Upper Gate: but our hopes were blighted! for when we got to the Office, both Coaches were full; so I could not go; & D^r Hadley was squeezed into a seat on the outside of one of them.

We met M^r Dry at the Coach, & he came with us to Dickenson's = & afterwards he and W.C. went to bathe, whilst I returned to my room, & vainly endeavoured to sleep. The children remained with me, until I left; which I did in the afternoon, by the Oatland's Coach. Louis went to Miss Sorell's, and Annie to M^{rs} Roberts'.

As I said, I went to Oatlands; & as I was there [105] fully three hours before the Mail would arrive, I had tea, & laid down on the Sofa to snooze.

At 1 o'clock I heard the Coach bugle, & was getting off the Sofa, when in came two men, & one in a most theatrical manner, said, "Is that bright Vision a phantom of my brain"? The affair was too ludicrous behalf! A poor sleepy mortal, tired with a journey, and a blue worsted cap on my head, to be termed – a "bright Vision"! So I said very sleepily: "humph! stroling Players! Waiter, put a candle in the opposite room, if you please"? This must have been rather displeasing to the gentleman; for it was no other than M^r Meagher!

The Mail, in which I proceeded to Perth, was full; A man & his son; and a person who sat next to me, who never opened his mouth but to cough = & whom it appeared to me, must have been born in the middle of his life. [106] The boy, when it was close upon daylight, kept on saying to his Father whenever he saw him inclined to sleep – "What's that you say Father"? at the same time not very quietly inserting his elbow into his venerable parent's ribs.

When I reached Perth, I walked to M^{rs} Chiene's, where I was most affectionately received; & I remained there until 11 o'clock, when M^r Davies kindly drove over for me. I found all quite well at the Deanery: The Bishop, M^{rs} Nixon, and a brother of the latter's, M^r Woodcock, were staying there. His lordship is a most delightful person; & M^r Woodcock very attractive. He is an Indian Judge; his manners are tender towards Women; & his voice in singing, really delightfully musical.

[107] The evening I arrived, there was a musical Party; & I was thoroughly fatigued.

The following day The Bishop & his wife left for Illawarra; M^r Woodcock made me sing 4 hours, without ceasing, & then rode off to dine at Illawarra.

Next day there was a meeting of the Clergy; and we dined 13 at the Parsonage. M^r T. Reiby was there, with dear “Harold”; the latter looks very well.

At ½ past 4 o’clock, Miss Walker came for me, and I went over to Rhodes, where I remained, until Maria came in the evening on her way home from Perth – where she had taken the Bishop to meet the Coach; & she brought back W.C. who had come from Hobart Town by the Coach. M^r Dry was on it, too; and he had yet to learn the sad news of his sister, M^{rs} [108] Richardson’s sudden death on the previous day. M^{rs} Lyttleton, when she heard of it, said “What troubles that family have had; they were always an irreligious set”! I wondered to hear her say such a thing; for has not her family been very much Afflicted, & are they too, irreligious?

How lightly we talk of our Neighbours – & at the same time don’t think of our own Sins & transgressions. Is this our Saviour’s creed?

I left the Deanery on Friday Morning, after a melancholy parting with my friends there: it will be many a day before I make such other ones; they have been so thro’ “Evil report, & good report” – always affectionate, trusting & faithful. May they have all the happiness which it is possible for Mortals to enjoy.

[109] M^r Woodcock drove me over to Perth; we called at the Post Office, got a letter for me from D^r Hadley; & I posted three for Mistresses McLeod, H. Smythe, & Maclean. I wrote to M^{rs} Chiene too, saying it was impossible to call & see her again.

At Campbell Town we found the Bishop, M^{rs} Nixon & Miss E. Pitcairn. I got very tired indeed towards the middle of the day; & in the afternoon, I took my seat by the Coachman for three stages.

We took D^r Hadley up at M^r Tooth’s; & we got into town at 7 o’clock: he dined with me.

On Saturday I drove up to M^{rs} Curll’s, where I sat working for nearly an hour. I then went to Miss Sorell’s for Louis, but they kept him: And I then took Ada Sorell to M^{rs} Roberts’ – but she too, wished Annie to remain until Monday.

[110] 23rd Monday. Yesterday morning I went to Church, & sat in M^r Buckland’s pew. The Bishop preached.

In the afternoon I drove up with D^r Hadley in a Cab to M^{rs} Stonor’s; found her alone, & sat there nearly an hour. When I was leaving, I said we had come in a Cab, but not by the Domain; to which she answered innocently “And why not come by the Domain, if you

like”? (This sentence had reference to a story I was told on returning home, of M^r Clarke’s having driven in a Cab on Thursday last, with M^{rs} Stonor, to see M^{rs} Arnold; &, my Informant added, “they came by the Domain, and returned by it”? “And, said I, “why not if they like it”?

We called on our way home, to see the Misses Scott, but they were out. M^r Clarke came, and sat upwards of an hour with me. [111] After he left, Miss Buckland came, & stayed until Dinner. Captains Tylee & Deering, D^r Hadley & M^r Clarke dined with me.

Soon after breakfast, (in which Miss Buckland joined me) I drove to Captain Twiss’: they were both agreeable & chatty: so much so, that an hour passed before I knew it.

The Misses Burnett called: I saw Mary Anne. M^{rs} Roberts, Miss Simmons, Eliza, Annie, & D^r Hadley were at luncheon. At ½ past 3 o’clock the Visitors left; & at 4 – D^r MacWharrie took his departure, & we went for a ride. We first sallied to M^r Clarke’s; & then to M^{rs} Booth’s, where I eat cherries to a frightful extent: we left at ½ past 6 o’clock. W.C. is not returned. D^r Hadley passed the evening here, & I’ve done some work. [112] Louis is at home. I’m excessively sleepy, having been much disturbed last night. The “Havannah” not yet arrived.

24th Tuesday. Went for a ride with D^r Hadley & M^r Johnston; William returned by the Coach, & found Miss Buckland here. Miss Scott & the Misses Sorell came in the evening.

26th Thursday. Yesterday morning I took the children to Church, and heard the Bishop preach. In the afternoon D^r Hadley, Mess^{rs} Johnston, Clarke & Dry; Captains Tylee & Deering came in to wish me a “merry Christmas”: and M^r Stonor, to say Adieu. They all remained until nearly 4 o’clock, when D^r Hadley & I went out to the Gardens; & eat Cherries to a desperate degree.

Captains Tylee & Deering, & D^r Hadley dined with us; and the Misses Sorell & Buckland came in the evening. [113] We were joined by Mess^{rs} Roberts and Johnston; & had quite a jovial evening: we did not separate until nearly 12 o’clock.

Today the “Havannah” came in; & as it was nearly 2 o’clock when she did so, Dr Hadley went off to entertain his friend D^r Shanks; & I’ve seen nothing of him since, excepting as D^r MacWharrie & I returned from our ride, when we saw 4 of the Officers walking up the Street, in a row. W.C. dined with him; and M^r Dry dined with me: he is in very low spirits on account of his sister’s death. My head & spirits were both bad; & I was but a melancholy companion, I fear.

M^{rs} Sharland has twice written to ask us up to New Norfolk; & we have accepted her invitation on Monday next.

I sent Maria her wools, and two songs; and a [114] []⁷² of Sir John Franklin for the Bishop.

31st Tuesday. On the 28th we dined at M^r Roberts in company with Captains Deering & Rankmore, D^{rs} Hadley & le Grand R.N. & Mess^{rs} Johnston; Miss Buckland, W.C. Miss Symmons, & myself.

We stayed there until 12 o'clock; which was quite late enough, as it was Saturday Night. I did not go to Church on Sunday, it was so very hot! D^r Hadley did not come until rather later than usual, and then seemed quite ill: he was fast asleep when Miss Buckland came in. He left consequently; and thinking to get ½ an hour to myself before dinner to write in, I went home with her: but upon my return, she accompanied me, and sat here until the moment when the gentlemen arrived to dinner, & remained in the passage for fully ½ an hour, whispering & laughing with M^r Clarke. [115] She is certainly the most stupidly blind woman I ever met; she continues so desperately in love with him, when she sees how smitten he is with M^{rs} Stonor: and will not take a hint!

W.C. saw her going, & asked her if she was coming in the evening? So she said she had not been asked! He then said "Oh! come then"! When she came, I was so vexed, that I went up stairs & wrote, instead of coming down: = yet even this, will not cure her of running after Men.

There was a very large party at Mess this evening, 48 in number. The Governor & General dined there. Oh! I've never once mentioned the arrival of the "Havannah", with Gen^l & M^{rs} & Miss Wynyard; Captⁿ Wynyard, D^r Shanks, (a very nice person –) and Col: Mundy. The latter is staying at D^r Dawson's; & so infatuated is M^{rs} Dawson with him, that she has never asked [116] W.C. or I to her house since his arrival, because the former did not call on him.

And I suppose she will come & see me when he goes = & I in return shall tell her a piece of my mind.

The Year ends less happily, than it has passed. I have certainly been happy often during 1850 = & too often allowed myself to forget that it must pass, & that very soon! Miss Buckland & the Misses Scott accompanied D^r MacWharrie & myself to see the Dinner; & then W.C. came out & took us into D^r Hadley's room, where we sat & listened

⁷² A word, perhaps "portrait" is missing from this sentence.

to the Band, for some time. M^r Johnston came in, & in the dark, shook hands with all the Ladies, thinking it was me; and after having done so, he said “Why where is M^{rs} Baxter?” I was behind the Curtain, but came out. Captⁿ Pratt brought me a beautiful bunch of grapes – of which we all partook.

[117] Captain Deering came to see us; & walked home with me. I took the Misses Scott home.

D^r MacWharrie sat with me, & saw the “old Year out, & the New One, in”. – After hearing the Bells ringing, the guns firing, the Bands playing, & the people shouting, I said “Good morning” to my friend – left him standing in the hall – & retired to bed.

And so ends my last Year in the Colony! Where will my next be, I wonder?

Hobart Town

31st December 1850.

[118] 1st of January 1851

Wednesday. In the afternoon I went for a ride with D^r Hadley, but came home in time to dress the Chicks, who were to go to Government House at 6 o'clock.

I did not go there until nearly 10; – & was detained later than I should otherwise have been, by poor Annie's coming home, not at all well.

The first part of the evening I danced with D^r Hadley, & was very happy. He went home about Eleven, & I did not know it, or I should have gone too. M^r Austin was very attentive, & I put him down delightfully, as he himself acknowledged! He is very easily silenced.

The room was very prettily arranged; the Tree very good; the ladies looked well and those who danced, merry. [118] Misses Lewis and Sorell were the Belles I think.

The room was surprisingly hot! I never so much felt heat before, in my life, whilst dancing. I left with M^{rs} Mason at ½ past 12 o'clock.

3rd Friday. On Wednesday I called on M^{rs} Dawson, to tell her that I could not get any Camellias for her. She was “not at home”! Altho' we knew she was so: and whilst we were talking to D^r Dawson just at the gate, Col: Mundy's Cab came for him!

We went tonight to a Large Dance at M^{rs} Burgess'; it was a very agreeable party & I left with D^r Hadley a little after 12.

6th Monday. Yesterday our friends D^r Hadley, Captains Tylee & Deering, Mess^{rs} Johnston & Clarke, & D^r MacWharrie dined with us, for the last time, here. [120] I felt very sad;

especially as I fancy I shall not see them again: and if I do, is it of any good? They left late; nobody wishing to say “Good Night” first.

Miss Buckland dined with us on the previous day; & in the afternoon, D^r Hadley drove M^r Macdonald & I to M^r Bicheno’s, to eat cherries: and where we found some sixty persons assembled.

W.C. had an accident on Saturday morning, & threw the Mare down, & nearly broke his own leg.

Today I went to the Band; & after that into town. M^r & M^{rs} J. Burnett & Miss B — & D^r Bedford dined with us: and in the evening M^{rs} & L. Smith; M^r & M^{rs} Roberts, [121] Miss Buckland & Mr Walker came.

It is past 1 o’clock, & I’m very tired: so Good Night to all friends.

I heard from Port Fairy; & received the £40; but M^r Baxter will not sign the Deed which I sent him: however, I have the two drafts, and the Bond for £2000 = so I must live very quietly on it.

M^{rs} Brown wrote me a long letter; which I’ve answered in a hurried manner, when sending a small box to M^{rs} Rutledge’s care, containing “the Secret Discovered” for M^r Irvine: – with notes to the “Firm”, M^{rs} Rutledge, M^r Learmonth, & M^{rs} Brown. [122] 23rd of January – On board the “Calcutta”; and fairly underweigh for old England. It was this day 16 years I landed in Hobart Town; this is Annie’s birthday, and Ada’s.

I little imagined when I went to Van Diemen’s Land, with what regret I should leave it! that I should feel as tho’ there was nothing in any part of the World beyond it, to delight me! But so it is; & I hope time even, will not make me think otherwise.

My journal has not had any place in my mind = for first of all leaving the Colony, then Sea sickness – have quite engrossed my attention, and so I must gradually make it up, at odd times.

We left on the 15th inst: and are getting on famously in our Voyage. M^r & M^{rs} Maclean, & family; D^r Andrews R.N. M^r Boyce, and our selves, are the only Passengers. [123]⁷³ As yet, we have had rough weather – but nothing very astonishing; the Ship is very quiet & comfortable; the table first-rate; the Captain, exactly as he is on Shore, which is saying everything.

D^r Andrews (R.N.) improves very much at Sea; he is excessively good-tempered, instead of bad, as I thought he would prove. M^r Boyce, is I believe, of the Neuter gender, this is

⁷³ Unpaginated in original

to say, an old Bachelor! He is very quiet, but chatty = & will doubtless prove the same at the end of the Voyage as he is now. (This, I trust will not be the same with my writing, which is anything but good.)

I have a great deal to write up, as the few days previous to sailing I was so hurried, and so truly miserable, that I could scarcely settle to anything. [124]⁷⁴ “Parting”, is a word very easily said, & felt and done! But with me it is quite otherwise. I certainly have made during my sojourn in the Australian Colonies, some most valuable and valued friends! Yet when the time came to go, I only felt one regret; I only wished to be constantly with One; I then felt how truly that one was entwined round my heart, & how fruitless any enjoyment for the future would & will be, unless that one dearly loved individual participated in it with me, to procure any actual joy.

Well! we are at Sea! We have had several days of fair, altho’ strong breeze; & are getting on very well indeed.

Today is the 2nd Friday in this week; it seems very strange, but we, in the New World, are behind hand in time.

We came on board on Wednesday morning, [125] the 15th inst: The previous Night we had gone to a Dance at the 99th Mess; it was very well attended; The Governor & Lady Denison, Gen^l & M^{rs} Wynyard, etc were there. It was a delightful party; I was so grieved to think I was seeing so many good friends for the last time; & this was the only drawback.

At 2 o’clock, or later, I went with D^r Hadley to his room, & sat there some time: he has everything so snug, and so like what he is – a gentleman.

When we rejoined the Monde, most of the ladies had left, in fact all gone but the Misses Sorell; We found the Gentlemen in the Supper room, at the table, drinking William’s health, in the most enthusiastic manner; & whilst we two stood by the Window, M^r Johnston proposed mine. All this was very flattering – especially when I knew that it was love & friendship which prompted it. [126] W.C. and Augusta walked off to our house; Ada with her Papa, (who seemed to be led away in the most extraordinarily unselfish manner, wherever his daughters chose to take him!) and Captⁿ Deering gave me his arm, whilst M^r Johnston, who was on the other side, spoke in the most affectionate manner of the sorrow he felt in seeing me go. He left us at the Gate; & D^r Hadley joined us, and we all walked up to finish packing. The rooms looked so

⁷⁴ Unpaginated in original

melancholy, without furniture, and what few things there were in them, all strewn in every direction.

After all was finished, the young ladies went home. M^r Clarke went down to change his dress, and the rest of us, 4 in number, were joined by M^r Dry, & we soon went down to the latter's house, where we had breakfast.

The Réveill^é beat before we left the Barracks; & M^r Austin was sitting by me when it sounded.

[127] After déjeuné we drove down to M^r Sorell's; Captⁿ Deering & D^r Hadley walked back to the Barracks from M^r Dry's: and I saw there for the last time, at all events for months, my dearest, kindest, most indulgent friend

We did not long remain on at M^r Sorell's; M^r Dry & M^r Clarke walked down to the Wharf; whilst W.C. drove Louis & myself there.

Harefield was there with Ada; & we all got into the boat and went on board the "Calcutta". Mess^{rs} Akers, Austin, Macdonald, D^r MacWharrie were already there awaiting us: M^r Roberts too, with Annie. They all left early, excepting Mess^{rs} Clarke, L. Smith, Roberts & Dry – who went to Brown's River with us, and walked up from there to H. Town. Poor Richard! his feelings suffered very much on the occasion; & I began to see that the old and [128] first Love, was above all others, even yet. God forgive us both; and especially myself for misunderstanding him so egregiously as I now appear to have done.

M^r Clarke gave me a handsome ring, the day before we left: it is a "forget-me-not", surrounded by 9 pearls.

